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Campaign on 'dangers of Labour'

Tories change battle plan for election

By Philip Webster, Political Editor



Mawhinney, supported by advertising gurus

THE Conservative Party yesterday executed a radical shift in its general election strategy by drawing up a new battle plan which recognises for the first time that Tony Blair has changed the Labour Party.

The Cabinet approved a far-reaching new campaign plan, drawn up by policy, organisation and advertising chiefs, which effectively scraps all previous strategies for attacking the Labour leader.

The move came as party sources admitted that previous attacks on Mr Blair had "failed to land punches".

Instead, in the remaining 11 months before a general election — John Major told Cabinet colleagues — that he intended to "go the distance" until next May — the Conservatives will accept that Mr Blair has changed Labour but say that the policies he has encouraged it to adopt are a menace to Britain.

Around half of the party's advertising budget, believed to be about £10 million, is expected to be devoted to its new line of attack on Labour which will carry the slogan: "New Labour, New Dangers".

More than £2 million will be spent on a poster campaign highlighting different "dangers" during the months of July, August and September, according to a leaked schedule seen by *The Times* last night.

The campaign will emphasise that the policies pushed through by Mr Blair — notably on the constitution, signing up to the Social Chapter of the Maastricht treaty, the minimum wage, education and Europe — are more threatening than those advanced by the party in 1987 and 1992.

The other half of the budget will go on the recently launched campaign under the "It hurt, but it worked" slogan.

Yesterday's high-risk decision to accept that Mr Blair has created a new Labour Party follows what officials

admitted had been the failure of earlier approaches. It has been pushed through by Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, against the misgivings of some party elders who would have preferred to go on campaigning on the claim that Mr Blair was still the mask for old-style socialism.

But Mr Mawhinney, drawing on a paper by Danny Finkelstein, the director of the Tory research department, and the support of the party's three advertising gurus, Maurice Saatchi, Sir Tim Bell and Peter Gummer, won strong backing for the new approach.

At least four previous lines of attack have been set aside. The claim that Mr Blair is merely stealing Tory clothes has been dropped, according to party sources, because it was not threatening and was precisely what Mr Blair wanted them to say. The allegation that Labour has no policies was felt to be equally weak.

The claim that Mr Blair had changed but Labour had not could no longer be sustained because of the success of the Labour leader's campaign to change Clause Four, a move which proved that he and his party were moving in roughly the same direction.

Finally the claim that Labour always produced bad government was rejected because

40 per cent of the electorate would have no recollection of the last Labour government.

The Cabinet's change of stance was revealed with astonishing frankness by party officials. A senior party source said that it was "a recognition that we have been using a number of attack strategies in the past that have not landed punches".

The campaign will be launched today at a press conference by Mr Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and later this week there will be posters carrying the message across the country.

Although there was no formal discussion of election timing at yesterday's meeting, Mr Major said it was still his intention to wait until May next year. He reinforced the need for the Cabinet to unite behind the new strategy "so that we are all singing from the same hymn sheet".

Mr Mawhinney will lead the attack on Mr Blair's "stakeholder economy" proposals. The Tories will also criticise Labour's plans to shake up GP fundholding and scrap thousands of NHS managers' jobs to save cash as risky for patients.

John Prescott, the deputy Labour leader, said: "The Tories simply cannot come to terms with the fact that under Tony Blair's leadership the Labour Party is addressing the concerns of the people of Britain. By my reckoning this is John Major's twenty-fifth relaunch and it merely confirms the disarray they are in."

"When they launched their last poster campaign we said they were making dodgy claims funded by dodgy money. They still have not explained where their money is coming from. They have clearly found more dodgy money, and there will be more dodgy claims to come."

Peter Riddell, page 10



Tim Henman stoops for a low ball during his victory over Magnus Gustafsson



The Briton's fans cheer him into the quarter-finals

Henman sweeps into last eight

By Joanna Bale

TIM HENMAN became the first British man to win a place in the Wimbledon quarter-finals in 23 years after beating Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson in a thrilling Centre Court showdown last night. Despite rain interrupting play twice, he maintained his winning form to beat the unseeded 29-year-old 7-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Now in the final eight, he follows Roger Taylor who was the last Briton to get so far — defeating Bjorn Borg in the boycott year of 1973. Taylor, now competing in Wimbledon's over-45s doubles, then fell to the eventual champion, the Czech Jan Kodeš.

Ranked 62 in the world against Gustafsson's 37, Henman will probably play the American No 13 seed, Todd Martin tomorrow if Martin beats another unseeded Swede, Thomas Johansson. Their match, scheduled for

court 14 yesterday, was delayed by the rain and will resume today.

Henman, 21, who last year found fame of a less agreeable nature when he was fined nearly £2,000 and disqualified for hitting a ballgirl after smashing a ball in temper, now carries the nation's hopes for a new tennis hero. It is 60 years since the last British man won the title — Fred Perry in 1936 — and the last British man to reach the final was Bunny Austin in 1938.

The Oxford solicitor's son catapulted into the limelight and won an army of fans last week with his victory, in his Centre Court debut, over the No 5 seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov. He then beat fellow Britons Danny Sapsford and Luke Milligan.

Photograph, page 24
Reports, pages 40, 41, 48

EU memo shows 'plan of silence' on BSE

By Charles Bremner in Brussels and Andrew Pierce

THE European Commission issued an embarrassing denial yesterday after the emergence of a six-year-old memorandum which reports an alleged decision by European veterinary officials to play down the BSE epidemic through a campaign of "disinformation".

Tory MPs reacted with anger and amazement and some said they planned to table questions in the Commons.

In the document, reproduced by the French *Journal du Dimanche*, an unidentified Commission official summarises a meeting at which the EU Standing Veterinary Committee is alleged to have

concluded that "it is necessary to minimise the BSE affair by using disinformation."

The note also claims that the Commission's representative on the committee had called for BSE to be taken off future agendas "in order not to provoke unfavourable reactions by the market."

A call was also said to have been made to Britain to stop publishing the results of its BSE research. The committee, made up of the veterinary chiefs of the member states, is the body which voted in the beef ban and must approve its eventual lifting.

Bill Cash, the Tory MP whose Referendum Bill was supported by 78 colleagues last month, said: "This demonstrates the irresponsibly hy-

pocrisy of the very people who have now caused so much trouble to the British farmer. It is important that the memorandum is thoroughly investigated and a full report laid before Parliament."

Sir Teddy Taylor, a former whipless rebel, said: "This was designed to put the BSE problem under the carpet even though it has cost lives."

Sir Paul Marland, chairman of the Tory backbench agriculture committee, said: "The French... have done exactly what this report recommended. While we have been the honest broker throughout... the French have covered it up. The Agriculture Commissioner instead of pointing his finger at us should start examining what

is going on in his own backyard."

The Commission said it had been unable to trace the document, but it said that the published version conveyed a false account of EU policy on BSE in 1990 and now. "Everything in this note is contradicted by events," said Gerry Kiely, spokesman for Franz Fischer, the Agriculture Com-

missioner. He suggested that it may have been drafted by a junior official who had misunderstood or had been misinformed about the meeting in October 1990.

A spokesman for Jacques Santer, the Commission President, promised an investigation into the note.

Fischer warning, page 8

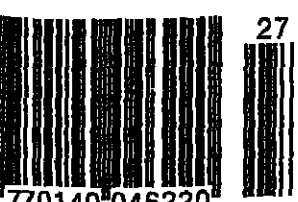
US helicopter crash kills two Britons

Two Britons have died in a helicopter crash in Florida. James Palfrey, from Plymouth, was killed instantly when the helicopter hit the ground near Orlando.

The pilot, Malcolm Timmins, who formerly lived in Plymouth but had moved to Florida, crawled alive from the wreckage but died five minutes later in the arms of a farmer.

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QC flies to defend Falklands fish zone

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

THE Government is sending a senior lawyer to the Falkland Islands today to prosecute a Chilean shipowner for fishing in British waters.

The case against the owners of *Antonio Lorenzo*, a Chilean-registered fishing vessel, is being seen as a challenge to British sovereignty in the Falklands. Usually ships caught fishing there are prosecuted by local lawyers. But this time the shipowners are defending the charges and Kenneth Parker, QC, has been instructed to conduct the prosecution for the Government.

Mr Parker said yesterday that it was the first time that a ship caught fishing illegally had raised the question of sovereignty over the waters. "It is very significant. If the shipowners' defence is right, we cannot put fishing conservation measures in these waters because we have no sovereignty — it would be a strange backdoor victory over the Falkland Islands."

The case will be heard in Port Stanley on Friday. The *Antonio Lorenzo* was arrested

on March 5 for fishing 18 miles inside the 200-mile maritime zone of Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

The Government argues that the waters fall within British sovereignty. The shipowners said they intend to defend the charge on the basis that the United Kingdom is bound by the Antarctic fisheries convention, under which UK coastal state powers do not extend to the two islands.

But Britain will argue that they cannot rely on the convention as an international treaty in municipal criminal proceedings. Mr Parker said: "They are arguing that the convention applies, and under it, we don't have sovereignty."



Stylish marriage

In a ceremony that owed more to Hollywood than to Hertfordshire, the England football star Paul Gascoigne married his girlfriend Cheryl Faines yesterday with characteristic glitz, bolstered by a £150,000 contract with *Hello!* magazine. Page 3

Leading article, page 17

Casket plea

Art groups last night called on Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, to use her powers of intervention to save the Thomas à Becket casket for the nation. The casket will be auctioned this week at Sotheby's. Page 2

Letters, page 17

Conductors hurt in 'ambush' on train

By Lin Jenkins

THREE youths ambushed a train and tried to force schoolchildren to hand over their pocket money and belongings before being involved in a violent scuffle with rail staff.

Two conductors were treated in hospital for their injuries after confronting the teenagers. The 16-20 school special from Bedford Midland to Blechley was forced to stop shortly after leaving Bedford St John, the first stop on the 18-mile journey, when the youths were spotted clinging to the outside of carriages.

Once on board, the youths intimidated the passengers and tried to rob them before the conductors intervened. The train especially carries two conductors to look after the 120 pupils from fee-paying schools in Bedford.

When the conductors tried to arrest the youths, they fled across a field, but were pursued and caught. Three youths were last night in the custody of Bedfordshire police and being interviewed by British Transport police.

Inspector Paul Wilson of British Transport Police said: "There was some sort of assault after the youths boarded the train, and two people are being treated for minor injuries."

One of the conductors is thought to have a broken nose and was last night being treated at Southwings Hospital, Bedford.

Dennis Lovett, spokesman for North London Railways, a BR company being offered for franchise, said that the line involved was "a very rural piece of railway, but we run services in cities as well, and this is the first incident of this type we have ever come across", adding: "We obviously take it very seriously and are concerned for our crews and our customers. We will be assisting the police and other agencies in any way we can to make sure the culprits are punished."

On June 22, an empty Ramsgate to Victoria train was ambushed at Swanley, Kent, and pelted with stones in what was described at the time as a Wild West-style attack.

A FINAL BURST OF ENERGY

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Law of jungle as MPs indulge in monkey business

Hidden from this sketchwriter's view, Paul Flynn (Lab, Newport W) staged not one but multiple arrivals in the Chamber yesterday. It was he who, hours earlier, had described the policies of his leader, Tony Blair, as "timid and anaemic".

His arrivals triggered strange and ambiguous body language in colleagues, some (I am told) shifting uneasily, faces twitching, others attempting frightened little pats to his shoulder or half-smug-gles-up in his direction. Anthropologists studying such behaviour among ba-

boons would note this tangle of admiration and anxiety, concluding that we were witnessing tentative, early approaches to a junior ape who had dared challenge an unpopular but feared senior.

The small primate drama was played out against the background of Virginia Bottomley answering Heritage Questions. The apes were fawning on (or teasing) an influential lady baboon.

Among baboons an esteemed and beautiful female knows she is attractive to the troop and signals this in all kinds of small ways. She develops a self-confidence and



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

poise and may indulge — for display only — in the faintest hints of coquettish behaviour. Even if she is in a permanent partnership with another baboon (in this case, Mr Peter Bottomley) she can be playful towards rival males.

Roger Gale (C, N Thanet) was sure the Heritage Secretary could help promote tourism in Kent. It would have been inappropriate for Mrs Bottomley to lollop across to

Mr Gale's bench and pick fleas from his thinning hair, so she flashed him a smile and told him how much everyone loved seaside holidays, especially in Margate. Mr Peter Bottomley was in raptures. The pair looked ready to scamper off to the beach together with buckets and spades.

Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW), the joker of the baboon pack, his rude capers much admired among apes, would

ideally have wished to show his blue bottom. Instead he threw her the rotten fruit of a hostile question, gibbering derisively. A cross Mrs B gibbered back.

John Cunningham, Shadow Heritage Secretary, is a self-grooming ape who walks tall. Swinging from his seat he asked a would-be one-of-the-lads question about "soccer". Later, Tam Dalyell (Lab, Linlithgow) spoke. I once read about a rogue baboon who grew morose. He left the troop and sat permanently on a submerged rock in the middle of a lake. Mr Dalyell asked Gary Streeter (the youth field-

ing inquiries to the Lord Chancellor's Department) whether the trial of the Lockerbie suspects might be carried out in South Africa under the auspices of "Mr Nzo".

South Africa's Foreign Minister is Mr Nzo. But Dalyell's solemnity is too vast for a word of such undignified brevity. With a roll of Tamam's tongue it became Nzo. Dalyell may be the librettist of *Wake me up before you go go*. Doubtless Nzo means something noble in Xhosa: buffalo, perhaps. Let us hope Nzo does not mean buffalo-dropping.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lords vote for curbs on asylum seekers

The Government last night narrowly won in the House of Lords a vote to reinstate curbs on welfare benefits to asylum seekers, ruled illegal last month by the Appeal Court.

After frantic whipping of its Tory peers, the Government won an amendment overturning the Appeal Court ruling by 13 votes. But they were defeated by peers on the issue of giving asylum seekers an extra three days to claim refugee status on arrival in Britain.

Lord Russell, the Liberal Democrat spokesman for social security, said: "This still does not make the government proposals acceptable. It just cuts a few bars from the prison windows."

Drummer guilty

A loyalist bandsman was found guilty at Londonderry Magistrates' Court of playing his drum with intent to cause a breach of the peace during last year's Apprentice Boys parade. In the first case of its kind, Steven Frederick Dawson, a 26-year-old joiner from Portadown, Co Armagh, was given a two-year conditional discharge. He is to appeal.

Judicial first

Sheriff Hazel Aronson, QC, will be installed as Scotland's first full-time woman judge in a ceremony in the supreme courts in Edinburgh on July 12 before a bench of male judges. She will be addressed in court as Lady Aronson. Sheriff Aronson, 50, who is married to a dentist, will replace Lord Davidson, retiring in the autumn.

Victim's baby

Melanie Russell, 23, who was thrown against a traffic bollard by the IRA bomb in Manchester two weeks ago, has given birth to a healthy girl. Kay-Leigh Roseanne Russell was delivered by Caesarian section 10 days early on Friday at Fairfield Hospital in Bury. Ms Russell, of Heywood, was badly bruised in the explosion.

Woman gets life

Samantha Powell, 18, who had a grudge against the police was jailed for life at Worcester Crown Court for deliberately stabbing two officers. She was carrying a knife and an axe. Evidenced from her Leominster flat for playing loud music, she wrecked the flat, threw a television into the street and smashed five shop windows.

Judging judges

The training of judges is to be boosted with more funding and greater powers for the Judicial Studies Board. The Lord Chancellor said the Board was being given greater autonomy in organisation of training, and responsibility for planning and financial control. An ethnic-awareness programme has just been completed.

Venables picked

Terry Venables, the outgoing England football coach, is a new entry in *International Who's Who*, but while there is also room for the Gallagher brothers from Oasis, the Duchess of York is a notable absentee. Richard Fitzwilliams, the editor, said: "We don't think the Duchess of York has achieved much."

Venables, pages 15, 44

Blair takes Catholic Communion but denies conversion

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR, a practising Anglican, has received Communion in a Roman Catholic church, fuelling speculation in Catholic circles that he might wish to convert. According to *The Universe*, a weekly Catholic newspaper, it is an open secret among priests that the Labour leader has received the Communion, even though this is generally barred to non-adherents.

Mr Blair's wife, Cherie, is a Catholic and his son Euan has been brought up in the faith. Catholic traditionalists are reluctant to criticise the Labour leader but suggest it is "unwise" for someone in his position to break church rules.

Mr Blair's office last night strongly denied any suggestion that he might be on the brink of conversion. A spokeswoman confirmed that he had received Communion at a Catholic church but said he would refrain in future "if it causes a problem for the church". A Downing Street spokesman said no Catholic had yet served as Prime Minister, although there was no constitutional reason why not.

The Communions are thought to have been at the church of St Joan of Arc in Highbury, north London, where Mr Blair attends Mass regularly with his wife and

family. His son Euan is an altar server.

Under current church practice, only Catholics in a state of grace are allowed to receive the host, which they believe to be the body of Jesus Christ. Exceptions are made at the marriage ceremony of a Catholic to a non-Catholic, where no Catholic priest is available. Non-Catholics who attend Catholic Mass can be invited to receive a blessing.

Most Protestants do not believe in "transubstantiation" — that the substance of the bread and wine are converted to the body and blood of Christ during the eucharist. Instead, they believe the bread and wine are merely symbolic.

Mr Thomas Egan, a priest at St Joan of Arc, declined to comment, saying: "We do not discuss who comes to Mass here, who is married here, who is buried here."

According to *The Universe*, one church official who is aware of the situation, but declined to be named because of its sensitivity, said some priests had turned a blind eye because they did not want to refuse Communion to a figure of authority. The official said: "I believe there is a huge contradiction in allowing Tony Blair to receive Communion but barring divorced and remarried Catholics. Receiving Communion without becoming a Catholic is a cowardly thing to do."

Labour Party policies 'timid and anaemic'

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR came under fresh criticism from Labour MPs yesterday for his allegedly dictatorial style of leadership as he prepared to ask the party's ruling body today to endorse his draft election manifesto.

The leftwinger Paul Flynn unleashed a new broadside, accused the party of producing "timid and anaemic" policies, while another Welsh MP, Llew Smith, warned that "all hell will break loose" if Labour

pushed ahead with powers to block troublesome MPs from being re-elected.

Mr Flynn warned the Labour leader that he was not "omnipotent" and accused him of behaving in a manner inconsistent with the leadership of a democratic party. "We are producing (policy) documents which are timid and anaemic, that don't rejoice in the achievements of the Labour Party," he told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme.

Heritage groups urge Bottomley to save Becket casket for the nation

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

HERITAGE groups urged Virginia Bottomley yesterday to use her powers of intervention to save the Thomas à Becket casket for the nation.

With only days before the 1190s casket comes to auction at Sotheby's, medievalists and clergymen are appealing for the Heritage Secretary to delay its possible export. The reliquary, or chalice, bears unparalleled Limoges enamelling and depicts Becket's murder. It may have contained one of his bones, a fragment of his clothing or a lock of his hair.

Leading art figures pointed out that Mrs Bottomley has the power to intervene, although there is no precedent of any minister having exercised it. An export licence is not required for an

object that has already been out of the country: the casket was in a German collection before it returned to Britain, bought in 1979 by the British Rail Pension Fund, which lent it to the British Museum.

A spokesman for the heritage department said confirmed that Mrs Bottomley could intervene. "The Secretary of State could defer a decision whether or not a licence is needed because the export licensing system is based on the discretion of the Secretary of State," he said. "But the system operates under normal expectations and precedents which the Secretary of State would have to take into account in considering such a proposition."

One source, who said that Mrs Bottomley has been fully

briefed on the matter, said: "This will not be an easy decision for her, but then a politician is appointed Secretary of State to take difficult decisions. It's not just a matter of going to gala openings."

The Victoria and Albert Museum's hopes of making a private treaty offer were dashed yesterday as it was unable to raise enough money. A delay would give the museum more time to match the price it fetches at auction on Thursday. It is estimated at £15 million but is widely expected to sell for a far higher sum.

It was disclosed yesterday that the V&A plans to offer £22 million. The heritage lottery fund has promised 75 per cent of that figure and

£100,000 has been promised by the National Art Collections Fund (NACF), Britain's biggest art charity.

Campaigners appealed to other possible buyers. David Barrie, director of the NACF, said: "It's extremely frustrating that the private treaty option is now closed to the V&A, and that the chase is going to auction. All we can hope is that the other interested parties may see the virtue of letting the chase stay in this country and refrain from bidding."

He added: "The V&A still have some way to go in their fund-raising efforts, and we are doing everything we can to drum up support for their bid."

Letters, page 17



The Princess of Wales leaving the Harbour fitness club in Chelsea yesterday morning on her 35th birthday. The Princess spent the day quietly with Prince William, 13, at Kensington Palace

Rifkind rallies to Portillo's defence

By ANDREW PIERCE

SENIOR Cabinet ministers rallied to the defence of Michael Portillo yesterday as he warned his critics in the Tory Party against playing politics over the sale of the Armed Forces married quarters.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, intervened in the growing controversy for the first time to make clear that he had supported the proposal to sell the estate when Defence Secretary.

Labour signalled that it was prepared to force a Commons vote on the sale by holding an Opposition day debate next week. At least one Tory rebel, Julian Brazier, said he would vote against the Government if there were no significant concessions.

Mr Portillo, angered by reports that John Redwood's supporters have fanned the flames of rebellion to try to damage his leadership prospects, went on the attack. He told MPs not to turn the issue into a clash of personalities. "My only concern is the issue and to get the policy exactly right and I hope everybody else is concerned about the same thing," he told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme.

Service families would be given a "suitable" alternative property but he admitted there was no guarantee that they could retain their present homes. "It really is a normal part of service life that people move around," he said.

Leading article, page 17

Howe and Hurd attack 'prejudiced' approach of Euro-sceptics

By ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS HURD and Lord Howe of Aberavon yesterday accused Tory Euro-sceptics of poisoning the atmosphere of debate on Europe.

At the launch of a Conservative Group for Europe pamphlet by Ray Whitney, of the Positive European Group of Tory MPs, the former foreign secretary expressed dismay that the Euro-sceptics had been allowed to seize the headlines. Their intervention came on the day it was reported that Michael Howe and was to argue for the deletion of part of the Maas-tricht treaty, to repatriate certain powers from Brussels.

Mr Hurd warned the Home Secretary against trying to demolish the supra-national parts of the European structure. "You need supra-national organisations if you are to have an effective single market in which people don't cheat."

Mr Hurd was saddened that Britain's European partners were "treated as enemies and conspirators against us". He supported the Government's White Paper on Europe, but the proposals were "not making much impact in Europe because they seem to come from a background of poisonous and prejudiced debate."

Lord Howe said: "It's the curmudgeonly tendency — as though we're always heading for the exit — which so often diminishes the effectiveness of our interventions."

Howard appeals against Bulger killers jail ruling

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Secretary increased the minimum sentence to be served by the two boys convicted of killing James Bulger because it was an "exceptionally cruel and sadistic" crime, the Appeal Court was told yesterday.

The Home Secretary decided the appropriate term was 15 rather than ten years after studying details of the case and because of the need to maintain public confidence in the criminal justice system.

In his letters to solicitors acting for both boys, Mr Howard said he had taken fully into account the fact that they had both been only ten years old when they killed the toddler. In the letters Mr Howard conceded that a much lesser minimum sentence should apply to them

than in the case of an adult. Mr Howard began an appeal against a High Court ruling that he acted unlawfully in setting a minimum sentence of 15 years for Robert Thompson and Jon Venables, convicted of killing James, aged 2, at Bootle on Merseyside. The trial judge recommended a minimum term of eight years for "retribution and deterrence" which was increased to ten years by Lord Taylor of Gossforth, the former Lord Chief Justice.

David Pannick, QC, for the Home Secretary said Mr Howard had decided to increase the sentence because he took the view that "this was an exceptionally cruel and sadistic offence against a very young and defenceless victim committed over a period of several hours". He said the the

lower court had erred in law in ruling that Mr Howard had acted unlawfully in increasing the minimum term.

It had failed to recognise that Parliament had deliberately given a broad discretion to the Home Secretary to decide on policies for the release of young offenders convicted of murder.

"Parliament deliberately so decided because it thought that the Home Secretary, answerable to Parliament, answerable to the electorate, is the appropriate person to decide what will best promote public confidence in the administration of the criminal justice system," Mr Pannick told the judges, headed by Lord Justice Woolf, Master of the Rolls.

The hearing continues.

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حسبنا الله وحده

Bride wore peach tulle, the groom and their four-month-old son Regan knee-length frock coats

Gascoigne puts on Hello! style for match of the day

By CAROL MIDDLETON

HE COULD certainly afford the carriage — nine stretch limousines, to be precise — but whether Paul Gascoigne's wealth bought him a stylish marriage was open to debate.

In a ceremony that was more Hollywood than Hertfordshire, the England football star married his girlfriend Sheryl Failes yesterday with characteristic glitz, bolstered by a £150,000 contract with *Hello!* magazine.

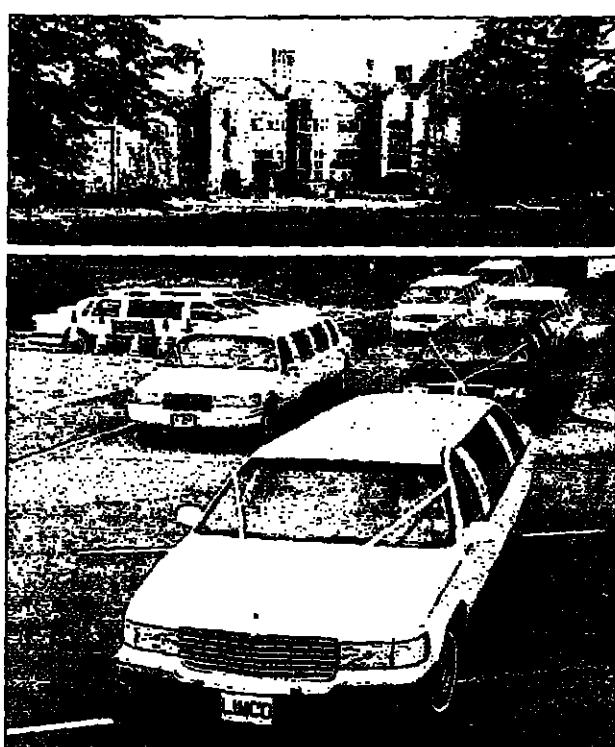
Security alone cost more than £15,000 at the historic Hanbury Manor hotel and country club, near Ware. Thirty-five traffic policemen manned the surrounding roads. Security guards with walkie-talkies patrolled every entrance to the hotel's 200-acre estate, but that did not stop rival photographers circling overhead in helicopters.

Gascoigne, 29, arrived at noon, two hours before the civil ceremony, drinking champagne in the back of a white stretch limo. He lowered the window, raised his glass and grinned at some of the fans who had turned out at the hotel gates, waving a collection of Gazza flags.

Once inside he changed into a knee-length gold-embroidered frock coat, designed by Favourbrook of Piccadilly, to marry Ms Failes, who wore a peach tulle dress featuring a boned bodice with hand-beaded French lace by Isabel Kristensen. The couple's four-month-old son Regan wore an



Gascoigne invited many of the England team to the Hanbury Manor hotel and country club, where he and the guests were delivered by a fleet of limousines



outfit identical to his father's. Ms Failes's children from a previous marriage, Bianca Jade, 10, and Mason, 7, acted as bridesmaid and pageboy.

Gascoigne, who plays for Glasgow Rangers, had asked the hotel management to obtain a licence for the hotel's own former chapel, which is now a banqueting hall. But current marriage laws forbid

places of worship, so the couple married instead in the Zodiac suite after Ms Failes had swept dramatically down the grand staircase.

All 96 rooms had been pre-booked by Gascoigne to avoid infiltration by the press, and the wedding party took over the entire hotel for the day.

Many of Gascoigne's England team-mates, including David Seaman, Steve

McManaman, Jamie Redknapp and the former coach Terry Venables, were among the guests. Glasgow Rangers star Ally McCoist, the Middlesbrough manager Bryan Robson and the Sheffield Wednesday player Chris Waddle also attended.

The wedding breakfast, prepared by Rory Kennedy, the executive chef, under the guidance of Albert Roux, was

served in the former chapel. Poles Hall. Guests ate carpaccio of smoked chicken, Scottish salmon and asparagus and mille-feuille with summer berries. The occasion was toasted in vintage champagne.

The best man was not, as expected, Gascoigne's best friend, Jimmy "Five Belles" Gardiner. Instead, apparently at the request of Ms Failes, Gascoigne's brother Carl stood by him and the Radio 1 disc jockey and TV presenter, Chris Evans, provided music and commentary for the evening's celebrations.

Evans had revealed earlier, during his *Breakfast Show*, that the 30-year-old bride had requested *Unchained Melody* by the Righteous Brothers as her dedication to her new husband. Gascoigne chose *Have I Told You Lately I Love You*, by Van Morrison, for his new bride.

Gascoigne had not played host to a riotous party on Sunday night. Instead, he and a few friends, including his mother Carol, enjoyed a few drinks at the nearby Swallow Hotel while watching the final of Euro 96. Gascoigne retired at the uncharacteristically early hour of 1am but showed a flash of his errant self by coming down to breakfast naked except for a small towel.

Mrs Gascoigne gave her son a 44-piece canteen of silver cutlery and goblets, bought from Gatheshead's Metro shopping centre.

Hanbury Manor, a Jacobean-style mansion built in 1890



Sheryl Failes leaving her home in Hertfordshire yesterday with her son Regan

for Edmund and Amy Hanbury, had spent days preparing for the wedding. A press release headed "Match of the Day" stated: "The England soccer star Paul Gascoigne wed his long-term girlfriend Sheryl Failes in a glittering ceremony... yesterday. Both members of Hanbury Manor's golf and leisure club, Sheryl and Paul's intimate wedding ceremony

took place at 2pm in the hotel's Zodiac suite. The cake and floral display was designed by Stephen Woodhams of London.

Outside the hotel gates Gascoigne's fans were undaunted by the intermittent rain and hailstones. Tracey Kenny, 33, said her son Ashley attended the same school as Bianca Jade. When Ashley had been forced to spend time in hospi-

tal Gascoigne had sent a framed signed autograph of himself.

"He's a lovely, lovely man no matter what they write about him," she said. "He's a diamond and I hope him and Sheryl are very happy because he deserves it. People say it won't last but you wait and see, it will."

Leading article, page 17

Guests are welcome at 'contract' wedding, but not their cameras

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE £150,000 the Gascoignes are reported to have received from *Hello!* for exclusive pictures of their wedding will amply cover the £100,000 cost of the reception. But it may not compensate the 150 guests who, under the magazine's strict buy-out rules, were unable to photograph the happy couple and had their movements stage-managed by the magazine throughout the course of the day.

Contracts for a *Hello!* wedding or christening are drawn up with military precision, with an eye to

the best exclusive — and they are nearly always exclusive — photo opportunities. Guests may find that their cameras are unwelcome. In the case of yesterday's wedding, hotel staff were even forbidden to release details of the menu.

None of these prickly details is likely to bother Gascoigne, who can rest assured that the social barometer of *Hello!*'s payment scheme places him among minor aristocracy and ageing rock stars. In *Hello!* currency, Gazza is double a Raine Spencer (£70,000 for her wedding album) and half as much again as Marina Mowat

(£100,000 for the baptism of her children). He even merits double a Rod Stewart, who only received a reported £70,000 when he reaffirmed his wedding vows to the model Rachel Hunter in January.

Mandy Smith, the 25-year-old model who, with two *Hello!* wedding spreads in her portfolio is no stranger to the glossy, said the magazine is wary because people so often try to spoil its exclusive agreements. The wedding of Ms Smith to the former Rolling Stone Bill Wyman and the footballer Pat van den Hauwe featured in the magazine, written up by the Inter-

national editor, the Marquesa de Varea.

"At my wedding to Pat, somebody took pictures during the ceremony, left early and then sold them to the *News of the World* the same day," she said. "They went into that Sunday's paper. I actually got handed a copy of it, with all the pictures, at the reception that evening. Obviously, *Hello!* weren't very pleased because it meant their pictures weren't exclusive any more. I think that's why they're much stricter now."

The contract is negotiated to secure the best interests of both

parties. "I dealt with the marquesa. Basically, she starts by telling you what the magazine wants and you tell them what you want and then you try and work out a happy medium to specify what kind of pictures they will take. For my wedding to Pat, they wanted pictures of me getting ready in the house. Not everyone would want that and it would have to be a point of negotiation. They don't want to push you, they just want your cooperation," Ms Smith said.

The wedding photographer is usually provided by *Hello!* "Obviously, they like to use the people

they know, but I could choose who I wanted as long as they approved it," she added.

Over at *Hello!*, whose parent company is the Spanish Hola SA, (proprietor Eduardo Sanchez Junco), interviews with the press are as tightly controlled as their own deals. A request for a chat about *Hello!* buy-outs met with a terse: "You'd have to write in with a written request for that. And actually we don't comment on these sort of things anyway — you should know that by now."

In return for exposing their intimate moments to the scrutiny

of the 494,000 readers who buy the magazine every week, the Gascoignes can guarantee short paragraphs of glowing prose.

"The thing is, they're not going to be tactless with you either before the event or afterwards, because if they get on with you they'll want to follow things up with the birth of your child and the christening," Ms Smith said.

Indeed, if there's one thing the *Hello!* team like more than a wedding, it's a baby. Next, surely: "At Home With Paul Gascoigne, His Lovely Wife Sheryl And Their Baby Son Regan."

RAF pilot 'couldn't resist Boy's Own leap from plane'

By MICHAEL EVANS

AN RAF pilot could not resist joining SAS troops in a freefall parachute jump over Zimbabwe, a court martial was told yesterday. He allegedly leapt with them from his Hercules aircraft, leaving his co-pilot to fend for himself.

Flight Lieutenant Richard Bywater was accused of breaching RAF rules that the Hercules should carry five crew members at all times. The court martial at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, was told that he and three other crew members took turns to jump with SAS troops.

However, when he jumped from the Hercules he left behind a pilot who was not authorised to fly the aircraft on his own. The plane was carrying eight civilians.

Flight Lieutenant Bywater, 34, admitted abandoning the aircraft but denied acting wrongly and claimed he believed he had the authority to leave the plane.

Group Captain Richard Charles, for the prosecution, said Flight Lieutenant Bywater was flying from a rough airstrip about 26 miles north-



Bywater: believed he had authority to jump

west of Harare in June last year. After weeks of watching the SAS practising, the crew could not resist joining them. Group Captain Charles said: "At the end of the exercise, there was a two-hour period of *Boy's Own* self-indulgence."

"There was no mention in the flight plan of accelerated freefall parachuting by the air crew. Nor was there any indication in forms filled in later that any of the crew had left the aircraft. "Flight Lie-

utenant Bywater knew what he was doing was wrong and covered his tracks," he said.

The court martial was told that Flight Lieutenant Bywater allowed his co-pilot Flight Lieutenant Stephen Mason, the loadmaster Sergeant David Thompson and flight engineer Sergeant Nigel Painter, take turns jumping with the SAS soldiers. He then strapped on his own parachute and joined in a freefall jump.

Group Captain Charles said that his crew were involved when senior officers questioned him over rumours when he returned home.

"When interviewed by RAF police, Bywater said he wanted a better understanding of the pressures on special forces. He also claimed that this was an established practice over many years and that he believed his powers of self-authorisation allowed him to carry out these activities."

Flight Lieutenant Bywater, who has been grounded since the incident, joined the RAF in 1984 and had flown Hercules aircraft since 1987. The court martial continues today.

Young bride among wadi victims

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A BRIDE of only eight months was among the five British expatriates who drowned when a flash flood engulfed an expedition to a wadi in Oman, it emerged yesterday. Karen Salt, 25, was swept away as her husband James helped to save the lives of four others.

Eight of the group of 26 were killed when the 600ft-deep gorge flooded on Friday. Mr Salt, from Barnsley, was trapped for 11 hours after trying to rescue his wife.

British expatriates Andy Deller, 34, Bill Love, 28, and Julian Whippie were also killed. The fifth British victim had not been named last night. The British Embassy also named an Irish woman, Geraldine Power, among the dead. Mr Deller and Mr Love, from Glasgow, were helping to secure an injured British woman, Sally Whitmore, 28, to a rock when they were swept away.

Two US airmen, Captain Scott Swanson, of Minnesota, and Senior Airman Zane R. May, of Arkansas, were also killed in the gorge.

Pigeon thief loses battle of Trafalgar

By A STAFF REPORTER

A TEENAGER who tried to make money by stealing pigeons from Trafalgar Square was fined £475 yesterday, as a magistrate said the birds were part of London's character.

The court at Bow Street, central London, was told that 19-year-old Jason Lidbury had regarded the birds as vermin and did not think he was doing anything wrong. He was challenged by a pigeon-food seller as he lured the birds into a box for resale to his uncle, who bred racing pigeons.

Lidbury, unemployed, of Stockwell, south London, admitted six summonses brought by the RSPCA under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. He was fined £100 for being in Trafalgar Square on March 5 this year with intent to take wild birds and £75 on

each of five summonses, including possessing wild birds for sale and having wild birds in his control.

Ronald Bartle, the magistrate, said: "It is right to say these pigeons are not any old pigeons but are there to bring character to the area, and are there for the entertainment and amusement of visitors and tourists to London."

Andrew Wiles, for the prosecution, said that Bernard Rayner, a licensed pigeon-food seller, saw Lidbury taking birds on a number of occasions: "He saw the man position a box and put food in front of it. When the pigeons came, he took hold of them and put them in the box. He estimated 40 or so birds would be in the box at one time. He remonstrated with the defendant but the defen-



Lidbury: lured birds

dant indicated he would not stop. At one stage, Mr Rayner released some birds."

When arrested, Lidbury told police he was taking them to his uncle, to see if any were suitable for breeding.

Peter Caldwell, for Lidbury, said: "Mr Lidbury was seen on five occasions and, on his account, the number of birds in the box never exceeded 25. His uncle would pay 20p a bird. His view was these animals were vermin. He did not think he was doing anything wrong."

He had made about £20 from the deals. "He recognises, whatever he thinks of the birds, that they do add character to London and what he did was selfish. It was out of character."

Lidbury was ordered to pay £150 costs and bound over for a year in the sum of £500. After the case, Ian Gough, an RSPCA inspector, said: "Pigeons are not vermin. They are a pest species but protected like any other bird. If we lost all the pigeons in Trafalgar Square, you would lose something very special."



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L-drivers face new obstacle as theory test makes debut

By JONATHAN PRYNN AND KYLE SMITH

LEARNER drivers faced the extra burden of a written examination for the first time yesterday. More than 3,500 candidates filed into test centres throughout the country to answer 35 multiple-choice questions on subjects ranging from how to drive over a speed hump to emergency first aid at an accident.

The Government said the theory paper, the biggest change to the driving test since it was introduced in 1935, would improve hazard awareness and help to reduce accidents involving young drivers.

However, the British School of Motoring condemned the changes as a wasted opportunity and called for interactive tests on computer screen. "It used pencil and paper technology to crack a computer-age problem," Richard Glover, the managing director, said.

Many of the candidates emerging from tests said they found the questions surprisingly easy and needed only 15

or 20 minutes of the 40 allowed for the tests.

Ama Ampaw, 29, who sat her theory test at Vauxhall, south London, said: "I don't see why I had to do the test. Having the normal driving test and the talk at the end would be sufficient. I think having to pay an extra £15 is outrageous. It's already £28 for the other test."

At a centre in Ilford, north-east London, candidates complained about long delays before being given test dates and resented having to wait five working days before receiving their results.

"Why couldn't they let us know straight away?" Karen Harounoff, 41, said. "My husband has multiple sclerosis so I really need to know how to drive." Mrs Harounoff said she had first applied to sit the exam in March, but all places were booked until June.

Mette Jorgensen, 18, a Danish au pair, said she getting a

driving licence in England because the process cost about half the £1,000 people typically paid at home.

Few thought they had failed although some confessed to the odd mistake. Olga Gatto, 29, a systems manager at Harrods, said she had wrongly answered a question about the significance of a flashing green light. "I put that it was an ambulance and of course it is a doctor's car," she said. "I sometimes had difficulty with the meaning of the words because I am Italian," she added.

The questions are drawn from a bank of 600 which are published, with the answers, by the Government's Driving Standards Agency in a book costing £9.99. Candidates must correctly answer at least 26 of the 35 questions. A further 8,247 candidates are booked in to take their test today.

Until January 1, learners can take the practical test first.



Learner drivers sitting their theory test at a centre in Vauxhall, south London, yesterday

From then on they will have to pass the written test before entry to the road test.

The papers are published in eight languages in addition to English, ranging from Welsh to Punjabi. Candidates who speak other languages can bring translators with them and candidates with dyslexia or learning difficulties can arrange to have the questions read out to them. Steven

Norris, the Transport Minister, said the tests were "very deliberately not an IQ test, not an English test and not an A level". They were simply a reassurance that drivers were familiar with aspects of driving beyond "whether they can control the gears and the brakes".

The test results would be carefully monitored over the next two years to see if they

contributed to improved road safety, he said.

Bernard Herdan, the chief executive of the Driving Standards Agency, said he expected more sophisticated interactive tests using video and CD-Rom technology would replace the written tests within five years. Power points had been installed at most of the theory test centres for installing terminals, he said.

Ireland pays silent tribute to slain reporter

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TENS of thousands of people throughout Ireland observed a minute's silence yesterday in memory of Veronica Guerin, the award-winning journalist who was murdered last week, apparently on the orders of Dublin criminals whose activities she had been investigating for several years.

Buses, cars and cyclists came to a halt at 1pm as people expressed their revulsion at the murder of Ms Guerin, who was shot dead in her car on the outskirts of Dublin last Wednesday. Irish radio and television programmes were suspended for the tribute.

A crowd of people stood still during the minute's silence outside Leinster House, the Irish parliament building in Dublin, where well-wishers have left hundreds of bouquets since Ms Guerin's death.

One card, which was attached to the gates, summed up the widespread public anger at the Government's failure to deal with the growing threat from the Dublin underworld. It said simply: "Politicians. Your negligence is Veronica's death."

The minute's silence, which was proposed by the National Union of Journalists in Ireland, was supported by trades unionists across Britain.

The massive show of sympathy for Ms Guerin came as the Irish Government agreed to accept a proposal from Fianna Fail, the main opposition party, which would freeze the assets of suspected drugs

dealers. The Fianna Fail Bill would allow courts to accept the word of a senior police officer or a revenue officer that assets had been illegally earned and should be frozen for up to five years.

Nora Owen, the Justice Minister, said that the Bill needed re-writing, but she indicated that ministers would accept the Bill in Government time.

The Government's decision to accept the Bill dampened the intense criticism levelled at ministers by the opposition since the murder of Ms Guerin. The opposition parties have accused the Government of failing to tackle the law-and-order crisis.

They also dismissed as "too little, too late" a series of proposals announced last Friday which included plans to hold a referendum to tighten the bail laws and plans to curtail the right to silence of suspected drugs smugglers.

Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday underlined the Government's determination to tackle the crime wave. He said: "We have got to make sure we fight fire with fire in relation to the serious threat that exists in this country at the present time."

Ministers are expected to announce a £45 million anti-crime package. This will include the construction of a new prison, the recruitment of more police and the creation of a new detective unit to curb the drugs godfathers.

Dublin man seeks to stop last article

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A DUBLIN man with a criminal record is seeking an injunction to stop an Irish newspaper publishing the last article by Veronica Guerin, the journalist who was murdered last week, which portrays him as a heroin dealer.

John Traynor, 48, said he would be killed by vigilantes or the IRA if the *Sunday Independent* published the article.

Mr Traynor was not in the High Court yesterday but his counsel, Adrian Hardiman, presented an affidavit denying that his client had any involvement in drugs. Mr Traynor had previously been jailed for possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and for receiving stolen goods. He now trades in motor cars.

He and Ms Guerin had met frequently since autumn 1994. "If I demurred at her suggestions, or even suggested a postponement, she informs me that it is in my best interest

to attend and that she is contemplating some form of publication about me," Mr Traynor said.

According to the affidavit, Ms Guerin contacted him last month to say she was going to write a major story claiming that Mr Traynor was "mixed up" with heroin dealers.

According to the affidavit, at later meetings she said she was going to write that Mr Traynor was involved in hashish or possibly Ecstasy. It stated that Ms Guerin had said she was under pressure from her editor to write the story.

Independent Newspapers declined to submit affidavits and its counsel, Eoin McCullough, said Ms Guerin had not written one. He said that freedom of speech gave the paper the right to publish the article and it would prove the allegations.

Mr Justice Barron reserved judgment until today.

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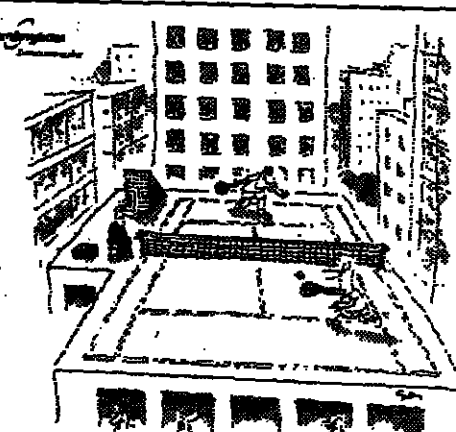
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THE TIMES TUESDAY JULY 2 1996

Doctors 'hid biopsy error from woman dying of cancer'

BY DIANA THORP

TWO doctors failed to tell a pregnant woman or her family that she was dying from breast cancer, to cover up the fact that two biopsies had been wrongly diagnosed, the General Medical Council was told yesterday.

Carol Clark, 32, became pregnant after being told the breast biopsies had proved negative. When it was discovered that a mistake had been made, a "unanimous decision" was made not to tell Mrs Clark or her husband so as not to cause any other stress, counsel for the GMC, Rosalind Foster, told the professional conduct committee.

She said: "The actions and words were governed more by fear of a successful claim for compensation than genuine desire to do the right thing by the patient or her family in answering concerns."

Dr James Campbell Ferguson, 59, and Dr Christopher John Simpson, 48, medical director of the South Ayrshire Trust, are accused of serious professional misconduct.

Miss Foster said the truth was kept from the couple not just during the remaining months of Mrs Clark's life, but well after her death. Mr Clark knew his wife was dying of breast cancer but learnt the truth, that the biopsies had proved "highly suspicious", only on October 31, 1994, his wife had died on August 3.

Mr Clark said that his wife had regularly examined her breasts. Her mother and her mother's sister had suffered breast cancer. In June 1993, she noticed discharge from the nipple and a lump on her right breast.

She was referred to Mr Simpson who took a breast biopsy in August. The result said it was not cancer but degenerative cells.

The problem continued and another biopsy was undertaken

in September 1993. The lump was found to be benign. In October, Mrs Clark, a mother of two and a part-time auxiliary nurse, underwent an ultrasound scan and it was recommended that the lump be incised. But by this time, Mrs Clark was pregnant and it was decided to postpone the incision until after her pregnancy.

However, by the end of January 1994 Mrs Clark was ill with severe back pain. She was admitted to Ayr hospital on February 2, 1994. Miss Foster said a review of the earlier breast biopsies showed "a highly suspicious malignancy". Mrs Clark was diagnosed as having cancer of the right breast.

Miss Foster said a decision was taken by the doctors not to tell the patient or her husband. Mrs Clark subsequently terminated her pregnancy and died about six months later.

Dr Simpson has admitted he met Mr and Mrs Clark on May 17, 1994, and also that he did not disclose to Mrs Clark that the reports of the biopsies had subsequently been found to be incorrect.

He denied that Mrs Clark asked him about the results of the two biopsies. Dr Ferguson has admitted that he wrote a letter dated October 12, 1994, to Mr Clark, stating: "I understand that the individual biopsies have all been re-looked at again and the pathologist would have felt that the original reports were correct comment, but we can go through that exercise again."

He has not admitted the other charges: that when he wrote the letter he was aware, or should have been aware, that errors in the reporting of the biopsies had been identified in February 1994 or earlier, and that the content of his letter on October 12 was

thereby misleading. Mr Clark told the hearing that the family had been anxious to know why they had received a letter saying the lump was "entirely benign when it obviously wasn't".

It caused his wife more distress not to know the truth. He said: "She passed away without the knowledge there had been an error made."

Mr Clark said he did not know about the mis-diagnosis until October 31, 1994, three months after his wife's death, when he had a meeting with Mr Simpson and was told "a tragic human error had been made".

Mr Clark said no attempt was made by either doctor to inform him or his wife of this error.

Miss Foster said: "Had it not been for his perseverance, the truth may not have been told at that stage."

The hearing continues today.



Tricia Gunther with Jennifer after she was born to a surrogate mother last year

'Timewarp' twin due after two year delay

BY KATE ALDERSON

A WOMAN whose first baby was born to a surrogate mother last year will make medical history when the second of her "timewarp twins" is born to a different host mother early next year.

Tricia Gunther's eggs, fertilised by her husband's sperm, were frozen in 1990 at a private fertility clinic in Cambridge. The couple's first child, Jennifer, was born in March last year to Teresa Finlay.

After months of searching for a second surrogate mother, Mrs Gunther and her husband Julian are now expecting their second child by another woman, who wishes to remain anonymous. She is two months pregnant.

The Gunthers' second child will be a "fraternal twin" to Jennifer. Medical staff who have treated the Gunthers believe they are the first couple to have a second fertilised egg successfully implanted in a surrogate moth-

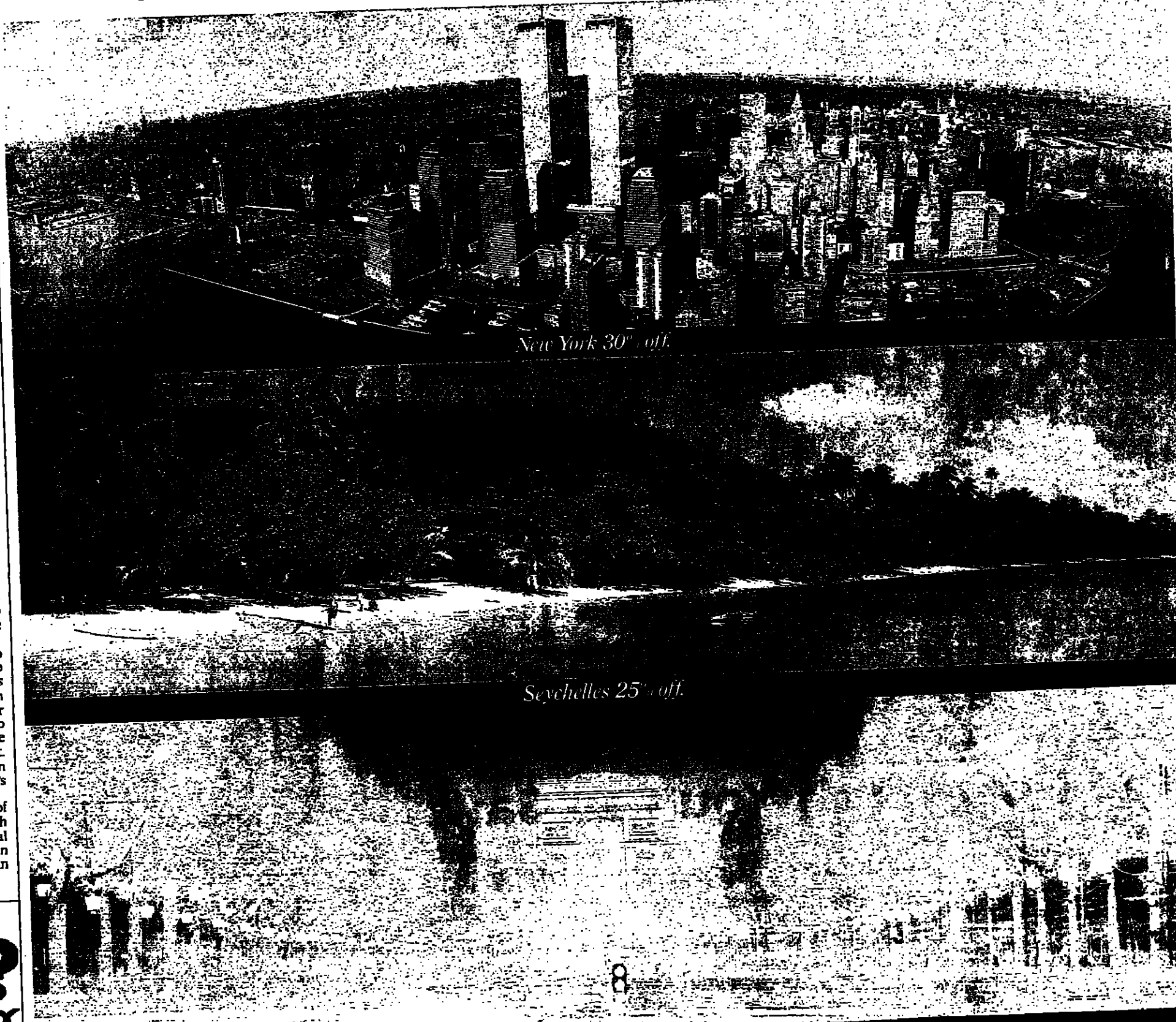


Jennifer at one year

er. It is also believed to be the longest time an embryo has been frozen and then successfully used in a surrogate. Mrs Gunther, from Handbridge, Cheshire, said: "I am overjoyed, ecstatic. I have seen two scans of the baby. My husband is delighted. So is the surrogate mother. It's wonderful that we're going to have a brother or sister for Jennifer."

Dr Mike MacNamee, scientific director at Bourn Hall, said the "twins" would not be identical because they came from different eggs. "But as the eggs were conceived at the same time, they are fraternal twins. For these 'timewarp' twins to be born to two different mothers is, to the best of my knowledge, unique."

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MP's lost father is found dead in the Alps

BY TIM JONES

AN MP's father has been found dead in the Austrian Alps almost two years after he disappeared on a mountaineering holiday. The body of Lionel Griffiths, 70, was discovered by police climbers alerted by a shepherd.

Mr Griffiths, the father of Labour consumer affairs spokesman Nigel, went missing after setting out from a hotel in Ober Tauern on September 15, 1994, and had not been seen since. It is believed he suffered a heart attack. The only clues to his whereabouts were in log books he had signed along his route. One of his final entries was from the poem *Rocky Acres*, by Robert Graves: "This is a wild land, country of my choice."

Nigel Griffiths, who spent three days searching in blizzard conditions for his father, spoke yesterday of his relief that the body had been found. He said: "I have always been quite philosophical about Dad's death. Some people's parents are mugged or hit by a bus, but he went doing the thing he loved most. We have all been terribly affected, but we are happy his body has been found."

The body, in the Dachstein mountains about 50 miles



Nigel Griffiths: died in "country of his choice"

south of Salzburg, was easy to identify because of his pipe, clothing, camera and notebook. The MP for Edinburgh South said that rescue teams would not normally risk their lives if a 70-year-old climber went missing because of the small chance of survival.

"But Peter Lintschinger, the head of the service, had been climbing with Dad just a few days before and knew he was fit and well-equipped, so helped us search for three days in terrible conditions."

He plans to fly out to Austria with his wife, Sally, to seek permission to have his father buried in the "unknown travellers" cemetery of Ober Tauern, where climbers who have died trying to cross the pass in winter are laid to rest. If permission is refused, then he will scatter his father's ashes over the mountains.

Mr Griffiths was head of English at Hawick High School, Borders. A memorial service addressed by Gordon Brown, MP, was held in Edinburgh last December.

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Fantasy comes true as John Hurt leads impressive cast who agreed to work for nothing

Fairy-tale ending for film student who dazzled stars

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A STUDENT who wanted to film a fantasy story was sure that the star part would be ideal for John Hurt. And, in the best tradition of showbusiness fantasies, the leading actor agreed to appear.

Hurt was so impressed by James Breese's script that he waived his fee to take part. He was not alone. The persuasive power of the 23-year-old graphic-design student also inspired a whole team of professionals to take part in front of and behind the cameras for nothing. Yesterday the

film, *My Funny Valentine*, an adaptation of Oscar Wilde's fairy tale, *The Happy Prince*, was in post-production as the young man who may be Britain's youngest and cheekiest writer-director told how his own fantasy came true.

"It was the best day of my life when John Hurt agreed to help," said Breese, a student at the University of the West of England in Bristol. "It's ridiculous to think you can just write to someone like John Hurt and ask them to help for nothing and they will come along and do it. I'd always

appreciated his acting and he had the right diction for the part."

Initially, Hurt was sent a two-page letter and a short synopsis of the script, about a statue that comes to life. The actor, who is about to go to New Zealand to make *The Climb*, said yesterday: "If somebody has the *chutzpah* to ask someone to do something for nothing, there are a great many of us prepared to do that. It feeds the industry and encourages talent."

"The general press have you believe we are a grand lot. We're not. We care for our kind. The more one can do to encourage new talent, the better. Students think 'He'd never do that'. It's not actually true. You're looking at someone's potential. I was impressed by his enthusiasm and accuracy of thought. I liked him and I liked the project. He's going to be okay."

Breese added: "I said that 50 people were involved, mainly students, and that I'd put a lot of work into it. Soon after, I got a call from his assistant with some dates to make the film. He said it was very interesting. It's about collisions between the world of humans and fairy tales."

The list of credits will also include the actor Gareth Hunt, best known for *Upstairs, Downstairs* and *The New Avengers*; the actor Ray Brooks; Mark Chamberlain, lighting cameraman for the award-winning *Wallace and Gromit*; special effects by Planet 24, the production company behind Channel 4's *The Big Breakfast*; and musicians from Portsmouth, the Mercury Prize-winning band, performing an Ella Fitzgerald score.

In addition, a 12-year-old Bristol schoolgirl, Alex Lee, was cast as the swallow. All

agreed to give their services for nothing.

Hunt spoke of being as impressed as much by Mr Breese's enthusiasm and persistence as his talent: "One's got to sit up and take note. He's going to be a very clever lad. A lot of people talk about this business and then never do anything. James impressed me. I was fascinated by what he was trying to say. It was a clever concept. I play the Gatekeeper to Heaven who stands outside a cinema: heaven is the cinema. He's an usher welcoming people. He sells tickets, filtering out the good and bad in a comment on humanity." Further support

has come from the BBC, which lent an office and post-production facilities; the British Film Institute, which was able to secure an Odeon cinema with 40s period details and costumes to match; and British Gas, which allowed the film-makers to shoot at a disused works in Bristol. The local community also rallied round, lending props, and HTV supplied cameras.

Breese said: "It is great to know that people at the forefront of the industry are still willing and able to help students to get a step up that all-important career ladder. I have always loved telling stories. The film does just that. It

is also an attempt to move away from the 'ultraviolence' of many modern films. I believe in freedom of creative expression, but many film-makers have overstepped the mark."

"They are not making for a better world. Through my film, I'm trying to return to an age of innocence, but it's far from twee. It tackles euthanasia, for example. It's a fairy tale for adults, but one that children will also enjoy."

Emma Hancock, 25, a media studies student from the university, was his co-producer. She has already got herself a professional producing job on another film, *A*

Slice of Life, a comedy set in London.

Breese's movie, which is likely to be just under an hour long, will be finished in two or three months. Tempest Films, which makes documentaries and films for Carlton and the BBC, has expressed interest. The process of persuasion continues. Breese said: "I sent them a five-minute trailer. They're going to put in some money to help me finish it."

There was also one other opportunity he could not miss: "As my final-year dissertation was on images of disability, focusing on *The Elephant Man*, John even gave me an hour's interview for that."



Powers of persuasion: the young writer-director James Breese with his co-producer, Emma Hancock

Recruited by Breese for *My Funny Valentine* were, clockwise from top left, John Hurt, Gareth Hunt, 12-year-old Alex Lee and Ray Brooks

£10,000 for man sacked over £1

A COUNCIL worker sacked after he was accused of falsifying his travelling expenses by £1 won £10,000 compensation yesterday.

Terry Smith's boss had him followed as he delivered enforcement notices around his district, an industrial tribunal was told. The next day Philip Devenald, head of legal services at North Hertfordshire District Council, retraced the route with his wife and children in a car. He measured the journey at 44.6 miles, worth £3.12 at 7p a mile. Mr Smith, an enforcement officer for nine years, had claimed £4.20 for covering 60 miles. He was interviewed and sacked for gross misconduct.

Mr Devenald told the tribunal in Bedford: "The amount of money involved is totally irrelevant. It was never my concern. I will not tolerate less than 100 per cent honesty by my staff. I demand absolute honesty and integrity. It is particularly important for enforcement officers who have the potential to prosecute people."

He said he had also been unhappy with Mr Smith's work in the past. He said: "He wasn't initiating any prosecutions. Looking at his mileage sheet and his diary, it seemed to indicate he was getting in his car and driving round the area aimlessly."

Mr Smith, a 60-year-old grandfather from Stevenage, denied making a false expenses claim. He said the mileage was correct and claimed unfair dismissal.

Before he was due to give evidence yesterday, the council agreed to settle the case. Mr Smith, who earned £12,500 a year, will receive a tax-free award of £10,000 and costs of £500.

Afterwards he said: "In settling this case, the council has had to admit it was wrong — wrong to sack me, wrong to spend money on an unnecessary investigation and wrong to fight it all this way. It has been a tremendous strain on the public purse and in my mind that is a complete disgrace."

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Lorraine and Graham, of Hall Green, Birmingham, were so impressed they signed up on the spot. They were also able to spread the cost by opting to pay by monthly direct debit.

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"We were both amazed," said Lorraine. "It meant we were paying out less money



Graham and Lorraine with Danny, Holly and Chelsea

for extra cover. With three children under the age of six, any financial savings we can make are obviously going to prove very useful."

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Independent research carried out in March 1996

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Ensure bushes or shrubs don't hide doors and windows, providing a screen for burglars. Leave lights on and curtains closed when going out at night. Timer switches are very effective.

Check sheds and garages are secure, particularly if they contain tools that could be used to break in or if your garage provides access to the house. Never leave spare keys in an obvious place.

If you're going away, cancel milk and newspaper deliveries and ask a friendly neighbour to keep an eye on the house. Join Neighbourhood Watch — this can also reduce your home insurance premiums. If you have a burglar alarm or are a member of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme and would like to see if this can reduce your house insurance premium,

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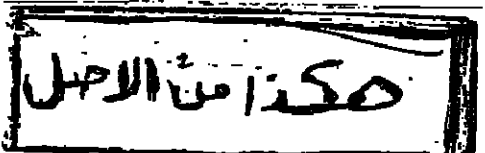
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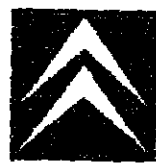
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Carlile quits Westminster to devote time to sick daughter



Carlile said he could no longer sacrifice family for politics

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

ALEX CARLILE, the senior Liberal Democrat MP, is quitting politics to help to look after his seriously ill teenage daughter.

Mr Carlile, an MP for 13 years, admitted yesterday that Westminster wreaked havoc on home life and he was no longer prepared to "sacrifice his family for politics". He said that while MPs were known to have hectic lifestyles and wives were expected to hold the fort dutifully, children were often the forgotten victims.

The MP wants to return to a less

pressured career and spend more time with his 15-year-old daughter Ruth, who is in a psychiatric hospital. The depressive illness from which she has been suffering for nearly two years has recently become acute.

He said: "It is clear to me that I can play an important part in Ruth's eventual recovery; but only if I am more a part of Ruth's life than my activities as an MP have enabled me to be."

Accompanied by his wife Frances, Mr Carlile, a father of three, said that MPs never had "proper quality time" with their families. Ruth was only two when

he won his seat. "At weekends you are constantly answering phone calls from journalists and constituents, you are going to village fêtes, dinners, drinks parties or canvassing. In Westminster you are either hanging around late at night for votes or answering stacks of letters. Everyone else has first call on your time," he said.

The MP for Montgomery said it was ludicrous to suggest that MPs did not work hard and had too much holiday. "During the summer recess, I spent the whole time looking after my constituency. My wife has been wonderful. But she has taken the responsibility for

bringing up the children." Mrs Carlile, a sculptor, said: "This has been a stressful and difficult decision. Alex is a person of strong loyalties, to his constituents, to his party, and to his family. It has taken us all some time to adjust to the extremely slow pace of recovery from mental illness and the time needed to help Ruth. He just wants to be there for her."

Although Mr Carlile is not dependent on his MP's salary, he said that MPs were not properly paid for the hours they put in and many were constantly worried by financial problems.

His decision has intensified the

debate about MPs' working weeks, their pay and whether it is necessary to have 651 of them. Mr Carlile will carry on as home affairs spokesman and leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats until the next general election and then will "go home" and return to being a QC.

His departure from Westminster is a blow to his party in the run-up to an election. He has a majority of 5,209 and is the only Liberal Democrat MP in Wales, playing an important role in efforts to increase the party's influence there, particularly on the devolution issue. A large field of

candidates is expected to apply for the rural seat, which has been a Liberal bastion for more than a century.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said the party would miss Mr Carlile, who was a "powerful voice" at Westminster. "We pay a very high price for being a Member of Parliament, but I think all of us understand that families come first," he said.

Judi Lewis, the party's Welsh spokeswoman, said: "Everyone is extremely upset about losing Alex — but at this very difficult time for his family the decision is entirely understandable."

Fischler tells beef farmers that trade may never recover

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

DEMAND for beef may never recover fully from the crisis over "mad cow" disease, Franz Fischler, the European Union's Agriculture Commissioner, told British farmers yesterday.

Risking the wrath of dairy and beef producers, Herr Fischler honoured a long-standing invitation to open the annual Royal Show at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. In the event, no protests marred the occasion and Herr Fischler, who has a farm in the Austrian Tyrol, was spared having to eat British beef for lunch. Later, however, he sampled beef satay at the stand of the Meat and Livestock Commission.

The organisers were careful to steer their visitor away from the cattle lines and took him to a flower show, the organic farming stand and a British food exhibition. At a packed meeting with farmers, Herr Fischler was chal-

lenged about alleged under-reporting of BSE in cattle herds elsewhere in Europe. Robert Robinson, from Alnwick, Northumberland, said the only two cases of the disease in his herd had been imported from Ireland, where he estimated there might have been 7,000 unreported cases. He asked why the export ban applied only to British beef.

Herr Fischler said he had heard rumours of under-reporting and he would raise the matter with the new EU scientific group set up to investigate the disease. He believed that 99 per cent of all cases of BSE had occurred in Britain.

In his opening address, Herr Fischler hinted that beef farmers might have to face production curbs to reflect permanently lower demand, although Britain could be less badly affected than some continental coun-

tries. "There is no doubt in my mind that we have seriously to look at the beef production of the future and how the system has to be adapted both to satisfy consumer demands and to allow farmers to earn an acceptable living."

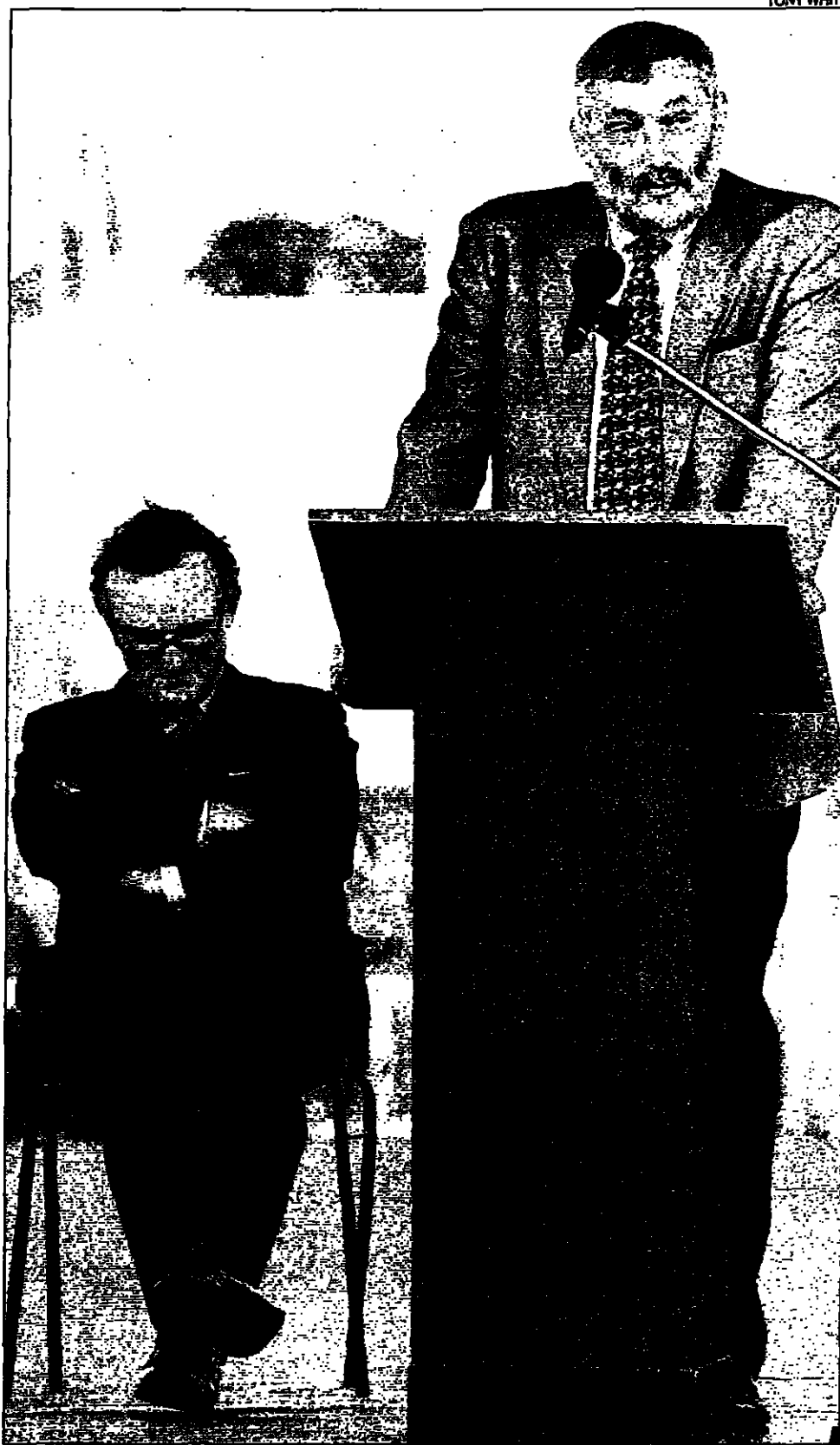
Later, at a press conference, Herr Fischler said: "It will not be easy to get back to the level of consumption that existed before the crisis." Production subsidies to help beef farmers could provide only a short-term solution.

He refused to endorse the Prime Minister's forecast after the EU summit in Florence that the worldwide ban on British beef exports would be largely lifted by November. That would depend on how quickly Britain could satisfy the conditions set for each stage in the removal of the ban.

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, said Britain had "turned the corner" in the beef crisis, although he admitted he did not expect to see the export ban being significantly eased before "the back end of the year".

At a private meeting with Herr Fischler, Sir David Naish, president of the National Farmers' Union, said that he did not regard the call ordered by the EU as scientifically justified but said he and other farmers would support it if it led to the removal of the ban.

Consumption of beef fell by 20 per cent in the first three months of this year compared with the same period last year, according to the National Food Survey. The total household consumption of all meat and meat products declined by 1.5 per cent in 12 months.



Douglas Hogg listening as Franz Fischler, the EU Agriculture Commissioner, addresses farmers at the Royal Show at Stoneleigh yesterday

New Blanc restaurant distasteful to residents

BY ROBIN YOUNG

COOKING smells from the kitchen of the world-famous chef Raymond Blanc have failed to seduce his new neighbours. Smells and noise from M Blanc's new restaurant in the heart of Oxford have led to a wave of complaints to the council.

Angry residents have also pointed out to planners that M Blanc opened his restaurant, Le Petit Blanc, before he had full planning permission. The brightly coloured restaurant opened with a publicity flourish a fortnight ago, when M Blanc's backer, Richard Branson, arrived in a rickshaw.

Neighbours were unimpressed and, besides the smells and noise, complain that the restaurant, in Walton Street, is opening earlier than it should.

The chairman of Oxford City Council's planning committee, Stef Spencer, said: "Since the restaurant opened two weeks ago, we have received nine letters of complaint and numerous phone calls from residents saying the restaurant is a nuisance."

"They have complained of the smells and say they cannot sleep because of the noise. The extractor fans do not seem to be working as well as they should, and the neighbours say they are opening at 8am instead of 11."

Ms Spencer added that the committee was disinclined to give the restaurant the extension to opening hours for which it had applied. "We are extremely concerned that he went ahead with a blaze of publicity when there were still these outstanding matters," she said. "He jumped the gun."

M Blanc said yesterday: "We want to live in harmony with our neighbours and we will do our utmost to keep them happy."

Second Tube strike tomorrow

A second 24-hour strike by London Underground drivers is to go ahead tomorrow after the breakdown of peace talks yesterday.

Aslef union leaders met London Transport managers for 90 minutes but failed to resolve a dispute over a one-hour cut in the working week.

Officials from the Rail Maritime and Transport union also joined the talks. It is ballooning members on strikes over time off. Co-ordinated action with Aslef would halt the network.

Amnesty tally

More than 15,360 guns were handed in during the month-long amnesty following the Dunblane massacre, the Home Office announced. Police stations in Scotland collected more than 2,500 of the total. The amnesty ended on Sunday.

Rescuer rescued

The Lymington lifeboat, called to the aid of the 28ft yacht *Chuckles* in trouble off Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, found the skipper they were towing to safety was the Royal National Lifeboat Institute's Chief of Operations, Commodore George Cooper.

Marry at leisure

Engaged couples are to have longer to change their minds, to help to reduce the divorce rate. A three-month deadline for a civil wedding after notification with a registrar is being extended to a year under new government proposals put before Parliament yesterday.

Cruise halted

Holidaymakers were going home yesterday after their cruise was cancelled aboard the Russian ship *Alla Tarasova*, stranded for three days with a flooded engine room at Peterhead, Grampian. All are said to be receiving refunds.

Stabbing charge

A factory worker aged 17 was remanded in custody at Brighton, charged with stabbing a Russian student. The incident allegedly happened just hours after England's exit from Euro 96. Another youth, also 17, from Moscow, has been released from hospital.

Model auction

A model theatre once owned by the actor Peter Cushing was sold to a German toy museum for £17,625 at Phillips in London. With it were ten stage sets and model figures including Sherlock Holmes, a part that Cushing, who died in 1994, often played.

Winning goal

A man from Folkestone has won £201,069 for a £122 accumulator bet with William Hill on two horse races and several football results, including forecasting Germany winning Euro 96. He had, however, made a £50,000 hedging bet on the Czech Republic.

Smithfield serves up union-free butcher's

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE first non-union butcher's shop began trading in Smithfield Market, London, yesterday when half the Victorian building reopened after a £30 million refurbishment and a £2.1 million deal to end restrictive practice.

Union representatives immediately "invited" staff to join but the shop was able to continue trading even though they did not do so. "It marks the real end of an era," Greg Lawrence, the shop owner and deputy chairman of the Smithfield Meat Traders As-

sociation, said. "My staff can join the union if they want to but nobody can make them."

The refurbished East Hall is now an hygienically sealed unit. Meat is unloaded by robotic arms from the back of lorries backed into pneumatically sealed hatches. Butchers work in sealed rooms with the cut meat hung on hooks that can be run out for display behind glass.

The West Hall will close over the next three months and should be refurbished by the end of next year.

Judge maintains status quo on pop station's record 'ban'

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

AN ATTEMPT by two veteran rock stars to force their band back into the Radio 1 playlists was thrown out in the High Court yesterday. Mr Justice Collins refused Status Quo's application for a judicial review of the BBC policy of banning chart hits by "unfashionable" artists, despite its remit to play Top 40 records.

He described the case brought by Francis Rossi and Rick Parfitt as hopeless and halted in its tracks what he suggested would be an "utterly pointless" waste of court time. He ruled that Radio 1 had a legal right to its opinion that Status Quo are "old hat".

The judgment, which leaves the musicians with an estimated legal bill of £50,000, effectively relegates Status Quo and a host of artists, from Sir Cliff Richard and Rod Stewart to

the Beatles, to easy listening stations.

The BBC welcomed the decision. Sarah Jones, a BBC solicitor in court to hear the ruling, said: "We are delighted Radio 1's right to editorial freedom has been safeguarded."

Rossi, 46, and Parfitt, 47, currently celebrating the band's thirtieth anniversary, decided to challenge Radio 1's stated push for a trendier image last March after the station failed to play their new hit single *Fun, Fun, Fun*. The recording went straight into the pop charts.

Kenneth Parker, QC, counsel for the group, told the judge in an informal hearing that the absolute ban, imposed by Trevor Dann, 44, Radio 1's head of production, was capricious, inconsistent and not based on musical taste. At one

point Mr Justice Collins suggested that, perhaps, Radio 1 simply did not like his clients' music. "They don't have to like it," Mr Parker said.

Paul Goulding, counsel for the BBC, said Radio 1 had never imposed a ban on Status Quo. He said each record was judged on its merits and its suitability for its targeted audience. Records would not find their way onto Radio 1's playlist simply because they were commercially successful.

David Walker, the group's manager, said they were downhearted but not defeated. He added that the action was taken not just for Status Quo but for all other bands similarly outlawed from the playlists.

Bill Latham, who acts for Sir Cliff Richard, said the singer felt "personally hurt" at Radio 1's action.

Ono and Beatles try to silence live CD

BY ADRIAN LEE

THE three surviving Beatles and John Lennon's widow Yoko Ono are trying to ban a CD version of a recording of the group performing at a club in Hamburg in 1962.

Lawyers for Lingsong Music Ltd, of Waltham Abbey, Essex, said yesterday that Lennon gave permission for the recording. *Live at the Star Club* was first released on vinyl. The Beatles' label, Apple, tried unsuccessfully to have it banned in 1977, when a judge refused to grant an injunction. Nick Kanaar, 55, the solicitor who fought the might of The Beatles then, is preparing to look horns again at the High Court.

Yesterday he said he was mystified by the claim for damages and the attempt to have all copies of the recording — sold by mail order as a

boxed set — destroyed. Mr Kanaar said a member of the audience — Ted "kingsize" Taylor of a band called The Dominos — was given permission by John Lennon to make the recording and later sold it to Lingsong.

Mr Kanaar said: "The agreement was either verbal, or scribbled on the back of a beer mat long before The Beatles became household names. I cannot understand why they are doing this. They claim they are illicit recordings."

He said it was not a case of "bootlegging" and the company was ready for a fight. In another case, the band Shakespeare's Sister are being sued for damages for allegedly infringing the copyright on the 1920s poem *Hornpipe* by Dame Edith Sitwell, who died in 1964.

TV's Rebecca bypasses Cornwall on road to Manderley

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE road to Manderley bypasses Cornwall, according to Carlton Television. The company has decided to film a two-part television version of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* — with its famous opening: "Last night I dreamt I went back to Manderley again" — in Hampshire rather than Cornwall.

All but a handful of exteriors in the four-hour adaptation are to be filmed at Rotherfield Park near Alton in Hampshire, more than 200 miles from Manderley's original setting.

The organisers of a du Maurier festival planned in Cornwall next spring are understandably put out. They had hoped that both they and Cornish tourism would benefit from a flood of visitors in the wake of the screening, as happened in neighbouring Devon when Saltram House was used for Emma Thompson's adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*. Du

Maurier wrote *Rebecca* while living at Menabilly, near Par in Cornwall. She based the dark and brooding house of Manderley on a combination of Menabilly and Milton Hall near Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

The landscape around Menabilly formed the backdrop to the book and enthusiasts say the television version, which will star Faye Dunaway, Charles Dance and Diana Rigg, should have been filmed in authentic locations.

Carlton may have chosen the location partly because it is only an hour's drive from its studios at Shepperton.

Malcolm Brown, chairman of the leisure committee of Restormel Borough Council, which is running next year's du Maurier festival, said yesterday: "It is very good news that they are making a new film of *Rebecca* but very bad news that they have decided to set it in Hampshire. The decision will be very unpopular and deeply resented here in

Cornwall. The story is set in Cornwall and the actual house is often thought to be based on du Maurier's own home at Menabilly where she wrote it."

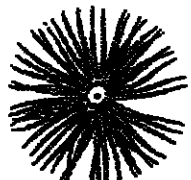
Peter Mares, a Carlton spokesman, said: "Filming can always be a succession of compromises. Our designer, Caroline Amies, and director, Jim O'Brien, looked all around England, including Cornwall, and went to Ireland, looking for the right location. At the end of the day they chose to do it mostly with Rotherfield Park and studio shots at Shepperton."

He added that *The Jewel in the Crown*, which Mr O'Brien co-directed, was shot partly in India and partly in North Wales, and viewers did not know.

Mr Mares pointed out that Alfred Hitchcock's 1939 film of *Rebecca* was shot entirely in California. "At least we are doing a week's filming in Cornwall for exteriors of the cliffs, cottages and beaches, which is more than Hitchcock did," he said.



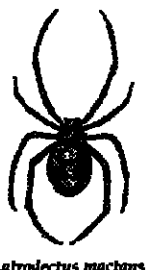
Fontaine and Olivier in Hitchcock's 1939 version, which was filmed not in Cornwall but California



Diploma antillarum
(Long-Spined Urchin)



Mugger (hugger)
(Common Hoodlum)



Lathrodes mactans
(Black Widow Spider)

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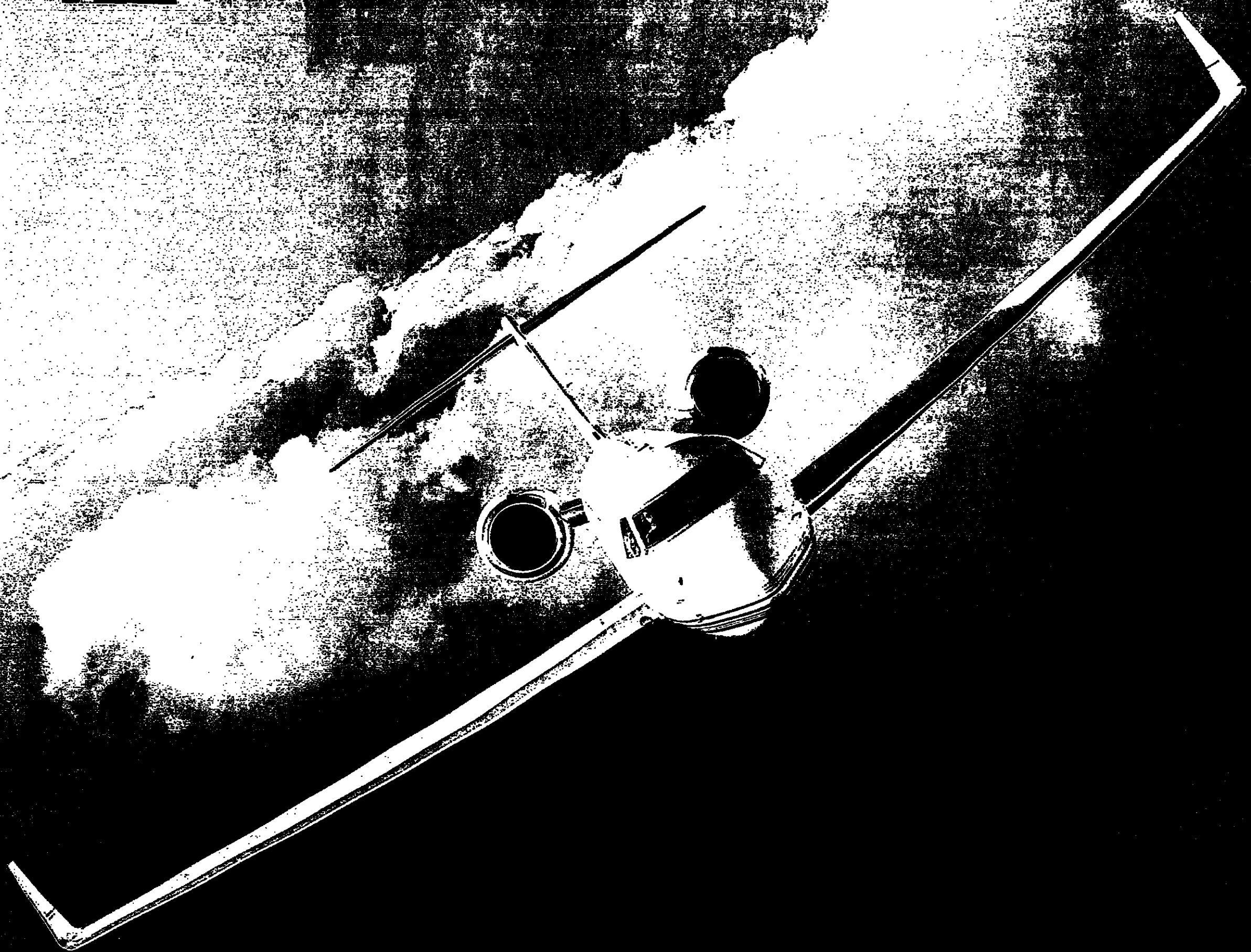
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Labour aims to cut £100m from NHS bureaucracy

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR announced plans yesterday to slash £100 million from health service management costs to improve patient care within the party's first year of government.

Harriet Harman, the Shadow Health Secretary, set out proposals to end the "paper chase" that she claims has been costing an extra £1.5 billion a year since the start of the internal market. She said that the £100 million represented only the beginning of cuts on an unnecessary bureaucracy that was draining money from patient services.

Ms Harman confirmed that if Labour won the general election there would be fewer health service managers, but she refused to say how many jobs might be lost.

Her prediction of management savings was denounced as "a mirage" by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary,

and greeted sceptically by health professionals who criticised the lack of detail in the plans.

Ms Harman said that by imposing a new limit on the management costs of trusts and health authorities enough money could be saved to pay for the treatment of 100,000 more patients. Labour would aim to cut management costs below the present average of 3.9 per cent of income for trusts, and 1.3 per cent for health authorities. However, the target would be a regional one because of the difficulties some smaller trusts have in reducing management costs.

Although Ms Harman said that cutting waste would be one of the first priorities of an incoming Labour government, senior figures in the party admitted that first-year savings would be determined by the speed with which

hospital trusts and health authorities responded to new instructions.

Presenting a health policy document, *Cut The Waste, Cut The Waiting*, Ms Harman said that £22 million could be saved by ending the system of extra-contractual referrals, which is used to obtain treatment for patients at hospitals with which their GP fundholder or health authority does not have a contract. The remaining savings would come from the £59 million spent on trust management and the £21 million health authority costs.

"Cutting bureaucracy will transform services," she said. "The NHS is tied up with red tape and bogged down in paperwork." Last year, 57,000 invoices were sent out by Guy's and St Thomas's hospitals in London.

"The madness of the inter-

nal market means not only that Guy's and St Thomas's have to appoint managers to draw up and process 57,000 invoices and send them out, but the health authority has to appoint managers to approve and process 26,000 invoices to buy healthcare for its local population from local hospitals.

"There are 30,000 more managers and 50,000 fewer nurses since the Tories introduced their market in healthcare. More people count the cost of care — fewer people to provide it."

Mr Dorrell was scornful of the plans, saying that the Government had already achieved 8 per cent savings on bureaucracy. "The idea that we can do everything we want to do in the health service in the future by just making the administration process more efficient is a mirage."



Harriet Harman: says that money saved on health service red tape will be spent on treating patients

Tories begin to see Blair threat more clearly

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

At last the Tories have begun to take Tony Blair seriously. Yesterday's decision by the Cabinet to change the direction of the Tory attack on Mr Blair is the biggest endorsement he could have wished for ahead of the publication on Thursday of the party's mini-manifesto setting out his "new" Labour approach.

Ever since he was elected Labour leader nearly two years ago, Mr Blair has surprised and confused Tory strategists as much as his own party. As Conservative Central Office officials admitted yesterday, the party had used "a number of attack strategies that have not landed punches". This is in part because confusing and contradictory approaches have been used.

The Tories have successively argued, often on the same day, that Mr Blair has no policies; has stolen the Tories' clothes; that while Mr Blair is new type of leader, Labour has not changed; and that Labour governments never work. None of these charges has stuck.

Trying to paint Mr Blair as a reincarnation of Michael Foot or a creature of the trade unions has seemed ludicrous. He demonstrated both his fresh approach and assertion of authority over union leaders by his success in rewriting Clause Four. Repeated polls have shown that the public believes that Mr Blair has broken with Labour's past, whatever doubts voters still have about the party's ability to deliver in office.

The Tory confusion reached its height in January when Mr Blair launched the idea of the stakeholder society. On the same day, one minister said he was adopting Tory policies and another argued that he was proposing new powers for the unions. Senior ministers have been won round to the view that the party has to recognise that Mr Blair is different and the old anti-Labour slogans will not work. A shift has been urged for some time by Danny Finkelstein, head of the Conservative Research Department, and David Willetts, the leadership's in-house intellectual, whose pamphlet on "new" Labour will be published by the Centre for Policy Studies next week.

The key was to persuade the party's marketing gurus, Maurice Saatchi, Sir Tim Bell and Peter Gummer, who are masterminding the Tories' multimillion-pound poster campaign. The Cabinet endorsed this strategy yesterday morning.

The new approach, as set out in a speech by Brian Mawhinney last Friday, is to sidestep the argument about whether Labour's policies are now different and to concentrate, rather, on whether they would work in practice. Hence, the slogan, with which we will become all too familiar over the summer, "New Labour, New Dangers". So instead of the old bogies of unbalanced strikes, withdrawal from Europe, mass nationalisation, planning agreements and the like, the Tories are trying to conjure up new spine-chilling threats — over union rights, acceptance of a federal Europe, a statutory minimum wage, choice in schools, new impositions on management and, above all, a constitutional upheaval.

Some of these questions are legitimate — in particular over whether business will face extra costs as a result of new regulations, over the commitment to choice in public services and about the potential pitfalls in Labour's constitutional proposals. But some other Tory charges are greatly overdone — and Mr Blair is rapidly trying to make them less threatening by removing ambiguous and expensive promises. So it is a gross exaggeration for Dr Mawhinney to argue that "a significant number of Labour's current policy positions are more extreme and more damaging than anything advocated by that party in the 1970s or 1980s".

The pertinent questions for the Tories to ask are whether Mr Blair's approach, and instincts, are shared by his party, and whether his caution on making promises and public spending can be reconciled with the overall promise that "new" Labour could really change Britain.

PETER RIDDELL

Harman has yet to explain how scheme will work

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE success of Labour's plan to save money by scrapping the internal market will depend on what system replaces it. There is no dispute that the market has led to higher administrative costs. But what is the alternative and would it be cheaper to run? On this, the party's health team was less than forthcoming yesterday.

Labour claims that £12 in every £100 of NHS spending goes on

administration compared with £9 in every £100 before the market was introduced in 1991. That amounts to an extra £1,500 million a year spent on bureaucracy.

It plans to whittle away this figure. Of the £100 million savings planned for the first year, £80 million will be saved by requiring NHS trusts and health authorities that are top heavy with management to reduce their administrative costs to the national average of 3.9 per cent of turnover.

To demonstrate the scope for savings it lists hospitals and the

number of invoices they issue. The United Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust has 300 contracts with health authorities and GP fundholders and sends out 12,500 invoices a year. Labour's plan is to cut the level of invoicing — and the managers who run it — by switching to a system of rolling three-year agreements. However, the details of how these would work have yet to be spelled out.

At present 232 NHS trusts spend more than average on management costs and 148 spend less (39 spend at

the average level). The £80 million will come out of the £852.5 million spent by NHS trusts on administrative costs and the £450 million spent by health authorities, a total reduction of a shade more than 6 per cent. In addition, Labour plans to end the system of extra contractual referrals, under which an invoice is drawn up for each patient sent to a hospital by a health authority or GP fundholder that has not contracted with it.

Removing this system, one of the costliest elements of the internal market, could save £22 million.

Harriet Harman cited the example of a woman with back pain who was referred to the Royal National Orthopaedic hospital and had to wait five months for approval of the £120 cost of the treatment from her health authority. The cost of administering the case was £360. "We could have treated three patients for the price of one," Ms Harman said. However, when pressed on what would replace it Ms Harman was vague, citing the possible suitability of "a number of budgetary systems" for reimbursing hospitals.

Backbench MPs warn of pay 'trap'

LABOUR backbenchers urged Tony Blair yesterday to resist being hurried into cross-party talks on MPs' pay (Arthur Leathley writes).

John Major took the unusual step last week of inviting Mr Blair and other party leaders to put forward their suggestions this week on the report by the Senior Salaries Review Body, which is expected on Thursday to recommend rises of more than £10,000 for MPs. Ministers are worried about the public's reaction and want to secure cross-party support for a lower rise, with the prospect of a higher one after the next election.

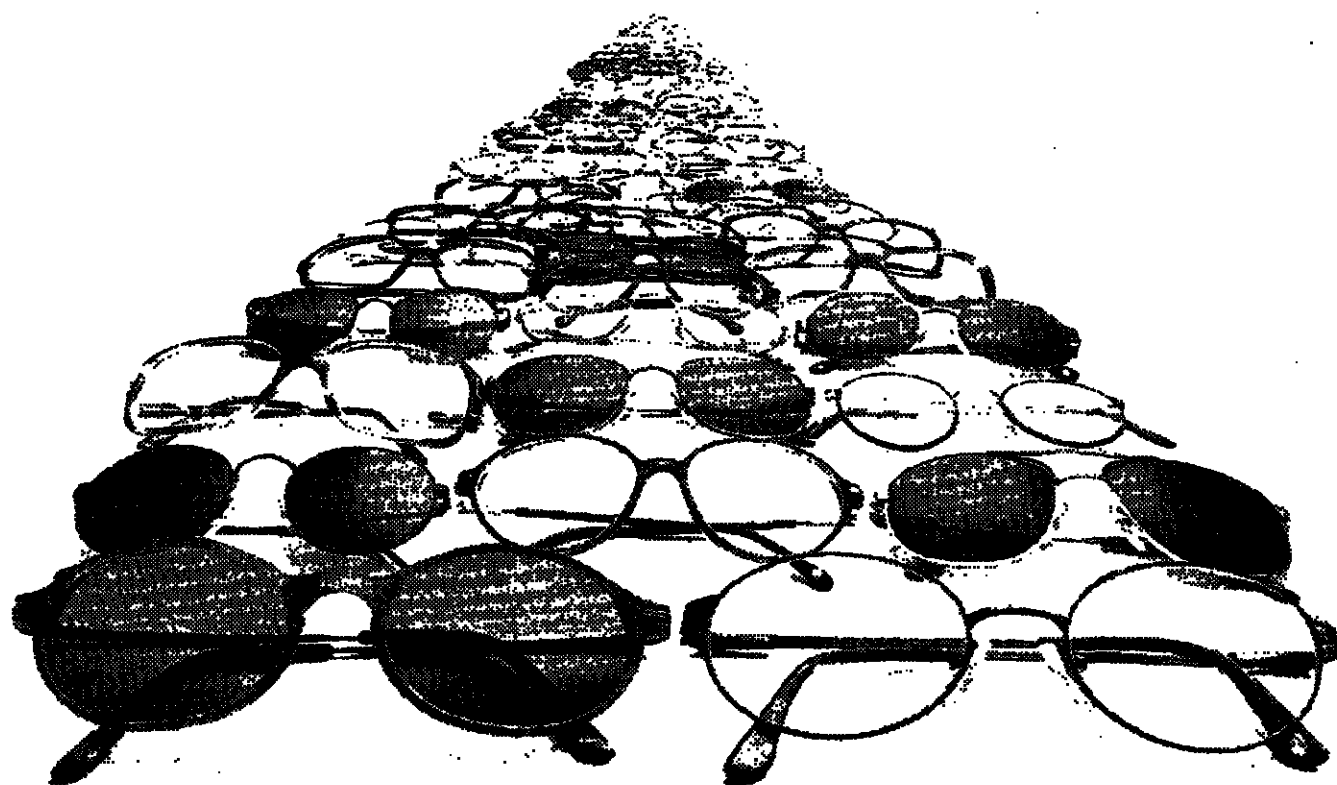
MPs will have a free vote, but Labour backbenchers fear pressure to take a party line. One Labour MP planning to stand down at the election said: "This is a Tory trap to get Blair to agree to lower pay rises to show that he is a responsible leader. But he should just keep quiet and leave it to us."

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: questions to environment ministers and the Prime Minister; Broadcasting Bill, report; debate on Legal Aid administration. In the Lords: Asylum and Immigration Bill, end of third reading debate; Railway Heritage Bill, committee; Sexual Offences (Conspir-

acy and Incitement) Bill, third reading; Armed Forces Bill, report; Energy Conservation Bill, committee; Community Care (Direct Payments) Bill, Commons amendments; Marriage Ceremony (Prescribed Words) Bill, committee; Defamation Bill, Commons amendments.

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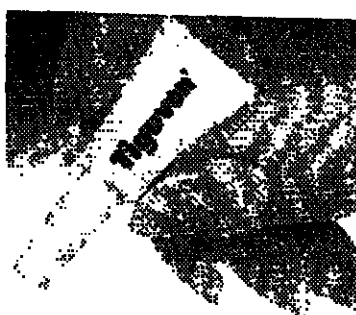
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هكذا من الامم

Thousands mark British military's bloodiest day

Ceremony at Somme's battlefield pays anniversary tribute to the million dead

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN THIEPVAL

THOUSANDS of British pilgrims, including more than a dozen veterans of the First World War, assembled amid the rolling fields of northern France yesterday to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the first offensive in the Battle of the Somme — the bloodiest day in Britain's military history.

The solemn service beneath the great Thiepval memorial by Sir Edwin Lutyens, on which is inscribed the names of 70,000 British soldiers with unknown graves, was attended by the Duke of Gloucester, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and representatives from several British regiments. Officials from France, Germany, Australia, Canada and New Zealand also came to pay tribute to the more than a million men who lost their lives on the Somme battlefields between July and mid-November 1916.

Of the 160,000 soldiers who set off through the mayhem of no man's land towards the German trenches in the first 24 hours of the Anglo-French offensive, more than 20,000 died and 35,000 were wounded. Just 185 German soldiers perished on that first day.

"It has been said that never have so many men walked so confidently to a certain death," the Rev William Scott told the congregation. "The German machine-gunners emerged from their deep dug-outs unscathed. They opened fire, and the bloodbath of the Somme began."

Norman Edwards was a raw 22-year-old that day, having joined the ranks of the 1st/6th Gloucesters less than two years before. "I felt it was my job," Captain Edwards, now 102, recalled yesterday, as a chill wind whipped across the former battlefields on a very different day from the "heavenly" July morning bitterly remembered by the author Siegfried Sassoon.

The young infantryman Edwards was lucky. He survived the terrible first day of carnage and was wounded three weeks later during a night attack at Serre. "The bullet was meant



One of the Somme veterans at yesterday's ceremony Harry Wells, 97, of London, wipes tears from his eyes

for my heart, but it went through my arm. That was my 'Blighy-ticker'. I wouldn't have swapped it for a thousand pounds," he said. Captain Edwards, from Sutton Coldfield, took a commission and joined the Tank Corps after convalescence, going on to become managing director of Metro-Cammell, the Underground train manufacturer. But after eight decades he is still humbled by his arbitrary good fortune. "I have had a wonderful life," he said.

Under War Office regulations, men who volunteered together could stay together at the front, leaving neighbours, workmates and even football teams to form up into such units as the Liverpool Pals and the Grimsby Chums. The 16 veterans at yesterday's ceremony are a dwindling few, but that camaraderie survives.

"I have so many friends who lie here," said Donald Hodge, 101, as he gestured to the great Thiepval arch and the ranks of headstones in the Anglo-French cemetery beyond. It is all but impossible to imagine the bloody chaos of the Somme in the neatly tended fields, while the formal milit-

"The heavens and earth were rolling up, the crazy hour had begun"

The Rev Walker July 1, 1916, 7.30am

ary grace of yesterday's service provided a stark contrast to the rank confusion and fear recalled by those who fought.

But the landscape does bear its scars. A few miles away at La Boisselle lies the vast crater, 250 yards across by 30 deep, where British sappers exploded 100,000 tons of explosive beneath the German front line at 7.28am on July 1, 1916 — the first minute of the "crazy hour".

Historians will continue to debate whether the Somme was an abominable mass slaughter ordered by incompetent leaders, a grim victory or an exercise in heroic futility.

George Jameson, at 103 the oldest veteran present and the only representative of the regular army of "Old Contemptibles" virtually wiped out in the first year of the war, is in no doubt. He said yesterday: "Nothing was ever settled by it. War solves nothing."

"On that first day I had the privilege of firing 280 rounds with the Maxim gun," said Captain Edwards. "I don't know if I hit anyone."

More than 3,000 people, many of whom travelled by bus from Britain, saw the

Duke of Gloucester and Pierre Pasquini, France's Veterans Affairs Minister, lay the first wreaths. As the service drew to a close, five veterans came forward to add their wreaths. "It was very important to come back and remember all of those who fell," said James Taylor, 97, from Comber near Belfast.

After the service, Sir Patrick Mayhew angrily dismissed suggestions that the British Government was under-represented. "My father was present on the first day of the Somme and saw an entire division mowed down," he said.

"As Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and someone who served in a regiment represented at the Somme, and the son of one who fought here, I feel quite comfortable representing my country and the Government at this occasion."

The Duke and Sir Patrick later attended another ceremony at the Ulster Tower, where Dr Robin Eames, the Primate of All Ireland, spoke of the Irish Protestants and Catholics who fought alongside one another during the ferocious battle.

The events yesterday commemorated huge loss of life, but also a sudden loss of optimism that changed the perception of war. With the battle, the hollowiness of the assumption that British troops would simply "walk over and take possession" of the German trenches became horribly apparent.

In the first hours of battle, the Rev John Walker noted how the wounded soldiers were "cheerful for they told us of a day of glorious successes". However, just two days later, the good man was secretly distributing morphine to dying soldiers in the "moribund" tent behind the lines. "We may be at this for months... and we hear of ramparts of dead English and Germans," he wrote.

There was quiet again on what was once the Western Front yesterday, as the military bands fell silent and British boys, who 80 years ago might have fought and died here, plucked poppies from the Somme roadsides.



Crowds gather in silence amid poppies yesterday at the edge of La Boisselle crater, where British sappers set off 100,000 tonnes of explosive beneath the German front line to start the Battle of the Somme 80 years ago

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bomb hits Corsican nationalists

Bastia: A car bomb exploded in this Corsican port yesterday, injuring eight people including two Corsican nationalist leaders and unidentified tourists, officials said.

Charles Pieri, one of the two national secretaries of the Cuncolta nationalist party, was driving the car and was among the injured. The other party leader, Pierre Lorenzi, was seriously hurt. (AP)

Bhutto victory

Islamabad: The Pakistan People's Party of Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, won a showpiece election in Pakistan-ruled Azad (free) Kashmir as accusations raged of vote-rigging. (Reuters)

Tamil ambush

Colombo: Tamil Tiger separatists ambushed a Sri Lankan army patrol clearing landmines near the eastern port of Trincomalee, killing 29 soldiers and losing at least 35 of their own guerrillas. (Reuters)

Leader elected

Santo Domingo: Leonel Fernández, 42, of the centrist Dominican Liberation Party, won the presidency of the Dominican Republic. He will replace Joaquín Balaguer, 89, on August 16. (Reuters)

Star Quinn ill

New York: The actor Anthony Quinn, 81, was "satisfactory" in the heart unit of Rhode Island Hospital. A spokesman would not say what was wrong with him, but he had bypass surgery in 1990. (AFP)

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Cuban boxers defect to US from Olympic camp

FROM QUENTIN LETTIS IN NEW YORK

TWO members of Cuba's Olympic Games boxing squad applied for political asylum in America after escaping from the team's training camp in Mexico.

Details were few, but the defections at the weekend led to fears that Cuban authorities may order a review of security of their Olympic athletes.

José Casamayor, a gold medalist bantamweight at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, and Ramón Garbey, an amateur light-heavyweight world champion, left the team's compound in Guadalajara, Mexico, and were said to have flown to the frontier town of Tijuana. After crossing the border they presented themselves at the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service office and sought asylum. They were taken in for questioning. The boxers are being represented by Frank Ronzio, a prominent Los Angeles immigration lawyer, who said the men had been "singled out for persecution" in the Cuban Olympic camp. Mr Ronzio

was confident they would be granted American citizenship.

The timing of the defections was odd. If the boxers hope to fight professionally on the American circuit, they could have impressed the many talent scouts who watch the amateur bouts at the Games and have in the past made stars out of unknown fighters.

However, Mr Ronzio said that Señor Casamayor and Señor Garbey "felt they had to

do it now" after being pressured to join the Communist Party and state their allegiance to the Castro regime. It was also probably easier to elude their minders in Mexico, where security at the Cuban training camp was slovenly.

At the Atlanta Olympics this month, there is likely to be less room for Cuban athletes to defect. International sporting events have in the past provided Cuban sportsmen with good opportunities to escape. At the 1993 Central American Games in Puerto Rico, about 40 Cubans fled.

More than 70 Cuban athletes have defected in the past six years. American baseball has also attracted several expatriates, many of whom are now paid sums that compare favourably with their nation's gross domestic product.

Cuban Olympic selectors said the absent fighters have been replaced in the boxing squad, traditionally one of the strongest at the Games.



Casamayor: gold medal

Christie to run, page 48

Activists outraged over plan to put monkeys into orbit

BY QUENTIN LETTIS IN NEW YORK AND ANJANA AHUJA

AMERICAN, Russian and French scientists met yesterday to discuss the ethics of sending monkeys into orbit to test the effects of long-distance space travel.

A group of rhesus monkeys, their heads sprouting electrical wires, their tails docked, are to spend 14 days on a Russian spacecraft in October. Animal rights protesters are outraged.

The effects of space on the monkeys during the Bion space trip will be measured by electrodes implanted in their brains. Scientists believe the results may indicate the neurological effects on people of the long-term space travel needed for a possible manned mission to Mars in 2010.

A Bion task force convened

in Washington yesterday to prepare an ethical report on the experiment. The meeting came after complaints by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals about the on-board conditions for the monkeys. The group claimed that the animals would be unable to move during the flight and spoke of the monkeys' skulls being "sliced open", of holes being made in their eyelids and of thermometers being embedded in their abdomens. There have been lurid stories of monkeys mutilating themselves in trying to rid themselves of laboratory encumbrances.

But NASA insisted yesterday that the wires would be implanted under anaesthesia by experienced surgeons and that the monkeys would be

taken to a Moscow monkey sanctuary after the flight to spend the rest of their lives in comfort.

Supporters of the experiment argue that the objectives of the mission fulfil strict criteria. These are that the results cannot be obtained in any other way; that they are relevant to the space programme and have the potential to enrich life on Earth; and that the animals are being humanely treated.

NASA is reportedly paying Russia more than \$33 million (£21 million) to be involved in both Bion 11, which is due to lift off in late September, and Bion 12, which will lift off in 1998. France will also participate in both missions.

Libby Purves, page 16



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Madrid angles for Eta talks to end Basque campaign of terror

FROM TINKU VARADARAJAN
IN MADRID

THE Spanish Government could be on the verge of a breakthrough in its long-running conflict with the Basque terrorist group. After a week of intense political activity, not all of it taking place in the public eye, the Government of José María Aznar has indicated a cautious willingness to talk to Eta, provided the guerrillas commit themselves to three essential preconditions.

These are: an indefinite suspension by Eta of all armed activity;

the immediate release of José Antonio Ortega Lara, a prison official kidnapped in January; and a recognition by Eta of the "plurality of the Basque people and the legitimacy of their institutions".

The conditions for dialogue were first set out last Wednesday at a meeting in Vitoria of the parties which are represented in the Basque regional parliament that reject violence. These include Señor Aznar's Popular Party, his Basque nationalist allies, the PNV, and the opposition Socialists. They exclude Herri Batasuna, the political wing of Eta. The Vitoria

conditions were laid down in response to an Eta offer of a week-long truce, which the parties rejected unanimously. Only on the fulfilment of these conditions, Eta was told, could there begin "a sincere and open process of dialogue".

Intriguingly, on the day after the Vitoria meeting, Jaime Mayor Oreja, the Interior Minister who is a Basque, said "democrats should not be afraid of acting with common sense".

Arousing suspicions of a process beyond the public eye, he told congress that "there was begin-

ning to be an atmosphere conducive to the advancement of peace". In a surprising concession at the weekend, 32 convicted Eta terrorists were transferred to jails close to the Basque country. There are some 500 Eta prisoners in jails, most at some distance from the Basque territory. The move appeared to be a small concession to Herri Batasuna, which has consistently campaigned against the Government's policy of "dispersal" of Eta prisoners.

The Interior Ministry disclosed yesterday that it was also "studying the possibility" of relocating a

number of hardcore terrorists from their cells in the Canary Islands, off the west coast of Africa, to prisons in northern Spain.

The conciliatory approach of the conservative Government in Madrid — in opposition, the Popular Party had been ferociously opposed to any deals with terrorists — can be attributed to intense pressure from its Basque nationalist partners. Señor Aznar would find it difficult to govern in Madrid without parliamentary support from his Basque allies, who are intent on exploring "every civilised possibility" of dialogue

with Eta, short of "going down on its knees", as Xavier Arzallus, the PNV leader, stated yesterday. On balance, the dialogue should suit Señor Aznar. He can deflect criticism from the Right of his party by pointing to the need to keep the PNV in harness. If it fails, he can shrug his shoulders and ascribe the whole initiative to the Basque nationalists as well.

However the process develops, there appears to have been more positive activity in the last week than under 13 years of Socialist rule. As a spokesman for the Government said yesterday, "the

pelota is in Eta's court, and they would be foolish to waste it".

□ Blocking tactics: The Socialists nationally have threatened to vote against entry into Nato's new command structure if the Atlantic alliance does not first disband Gímbel, its command in Gibraltar. Gímbel has long been a source of friction between Nato and Spain, and has been one of the reasons why Madrid has persistently resisted integration into the alliance's command structure. But Señor Aznar's administration is committed in principle to first integration with Nato.

Fears grow over Yeltsin's health after TV appeal

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW AND
MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

A TIRED and frail President Yeltsin emerged yesterday after several days' absence to make a final appeal to his compatriots to support his re-election bid when polls open tomorrow to decide who will rule Russia.

In a brief televised address, the visibly ailing Russian leader told voters that they faced a watershed decision either to support his reformist policies or choose to return to the darkest days of communism. "On election day, you will vote not only for Yeltsin or [his rival Communist Party leader Gennadi] Zyuganov," said the 65-year-old Kremlin boss. "You will vote on the future, for yourself, for the future of your children."

Although the message was the same as countless other campaign speeches, the authority and confidence which once characterised President Yeltsin had disappeared from his delivery. He looked drawn, stiff and at one point shifted uncomfortably in his seat.

After the broadcast, a key backer of Mr Zyuganov described Mr Yeltsin as a "living corpse" and suggested that the Kremlin should put off the run-off election and allow the President to recover. Stanislav Govorukhin, a Communist MP, said: "We haven't seen him for several days and today they showed us a painted mummy as if he had just got it from the mausoleum. They are suggesting we vote for a living corpse."

For President Yeltsin, who recently went down a coal mine, danced at a pop concert and shook the hands of hundreds of his supporters during months of campaigning, the two-minute prepared text seemed to stretch his physical resources to the limit. At no point in yesterday's Kremlin



film he was seen standing. Kremlin aides insisted that the Russian leader was only suffering the after-effects of a cold and was working normally at his office. Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, predicted that Mr Yeltsin may have suffered another cardiac problem, similar to his two heart attacks last year. "I noticed no sign of an attack," he said. "The President grabbed my right hand in a handshake and nearly tore it off. Don't worry, everything is all right." However,

Chechenia peace 'near collapse'

Southern Chechenia: Shamil Basayev, a Chechen field commander and the rebel most feared by many in Russia, criticised a peace plan signed with Moscow, saying he was sure the 18-month conflict would go on. In a mountain hideaway on Sunday, he said Russia "didn't want peace at all".

Under the plan, Russia will remove troops by September 1 and free elections will be held. But the Chechen government said on Saturday that the agreement was near collapse because Russia was dragging its feet on pullouts and failing to dismantle checkpoints. (Reuters)

the attempt to calm public unease did not convince Mr Zyuganov who, in his final campaign press conference, rounded on President Yeltsin and accused him of being physically not up to his job. "The point is that on the eve of the decisive second round of voting, the head of state, seeking another term, is keeping away from the public. He is not to be seen or heard. This is very alarming."

He added: "A claim to the presidency is being made by someone who has undergone ten courses of medical treatment over the past two years and who spent five months in the hospital bed last year alone. And this at a time when the country itself is on the verge of a heart attack, when urgent measures are required to improve its health."

In Washington, it was disclosed that three American political strategists have been secretly working in Moscow on President Yeltsin's re-election campaign. The Washington Post said yesterday that the three veteran Republicans — George Gorton, a top strategist for Governor Pete Wilson of California; Dick Dresner, a New York pollster; and Joe Shumate, a polling analyst — have been holed up in the President Hotel, Mr Yeltsin's campaign headquarters, for the past month. But a spokesman for Mr Yeltsin called the report "a damn lie" and insisted there were "no foreigners here, not a single one". However, the Post contacted all three men in their rooms at the hotel but none would discuss their work.

The political fallout from President Yeltsin's physical ailments is hard to predict. The last polls to be released before election day showed the Russian leader enjoyed a comfortable lead over his Communist challenger, but most pundits predict the final result will be very close.

Some voting is already tak-



President Yeltsin at a meeting yesterday in the presidential palace in Moscow

ing place in remote parts of Russia and at Russian missions abroad. One unofficial result from the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan showed that President Yeltsin had won about 70 per cent of the 654 votes cast in Russia's Central Asian neighbour.

But back on Russian soil, that result will be hard to match, particularly since the Kremlin is fighting voter apathy and election overkill. Even among some of Mr Yeltsin's strongest supporters there was an admission that the advantage had clearly shifted to the Communist challenger. Vitali Tretyakov, editor of the *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*,

whose newspaper, like the bulk of Russia's media, has been fully behind President Yeltsin, wrote yesterday that the steam had gone out of the Kremlin's re-election campaign. "The President's team, analysts and campaign managers are in a stupor," he said. "All this gives the impression that the initiative is not within the grasp of the man who won the first round, by however small a margin."

□ London: President Yeltsin's public absence is worrying Western fund managers who are looking hard at investments in Russian equities after making astronomical returns from what has been the

best performing stockmarket this year. One London-based fund manager said: "It was inevitable that Yeltsin's health would re-emerge as an issue in Russian politics, but it really is hopeless to try to second-guess what is really going on in the Kremlin."

Foreign investors have scrambled to position themselves for a Yeltsin win. But the market shuddered when he failed to turn up at a campaign meeting on Friday. Foreign investors own up to \$1.5 billion (£974 million) of Russian equities which account for a large part of the daily \$30 million share turnover in Moscow. (Reuters)

Bonn ministers do battle over defence cuts

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE pressure to cut public spending and meet the entry criteria for a European single currency is pitting Germany's Cabinet ministers against each other in one of the fiercest budget rows for years.

Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, has accused Volker Rühe, the Defence Minister, of endangering the introduction of the euro because of swollen military budgets. Herr Rühe is hinting that the proposed cuts could jeopardise important Franco-German arms projects and even, perhaps, the multinational Eurofighter. Euro or the Eurofighter? The alternative may not be quite so stark but there is no doubt that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, will have to pull apart his feuding ministers and make some hard choices within the next few days.

Herr Waigel is looking for federal cuts of DM7 billion (£2.9 billion) in order to throttle back new public borrowing and stay in line with the Maastricht criteria during 1997, the selection year for monetary union candidates. He wants Herr Rühe to come up with DM2.5 billion worth of savings.

But the defence budget has been shrinking rapidly since German unification in 1990 and army planners are concerned that they will be left with a gaping hole.

The row came to a head last week. The burly Defence Minister visited his Cabinet colleague at the Finance Ministry. According to reliable versions of the meeting, Herr Rühe claimed that the whole idea of a conscript army was under threat. "If you want another kind of army, perhaps you'd better let me know," he told the Finance Minister.

One version of the argument, reported yesterday by *Der Spiegel*, depicts the Defence Minister as mocking Herr Waigel who had earlier pleaded for the survival of a small tank storage depot,

which happens to be in the Finance Minister's constituency in Bavaria. "That's what I like to hear — fighting for every little job at home and then chopping billions from my budget," Herr Rühe is reported as saying. "And where else am I supposed to get the money? I don't have anything else to cut," came the reply.

The Defence Minister left the meeting in a rage. His first move was to send a memo to Herr Kohl and suggest that some of the Chancellor's most cherished projects could be scrapped. Given the scope of the requested cuts, he wrote, a range of Franco-German defence projects might have to go: the Tiger combat helicopter, a new transport helicopter, a joint spy satellite, and maybe even the Eurofighter, which has survived wave after wave of spending cutbacks.

The Chancellor recently appealed to President Chirac to keep some endangered Franco-German projects alive and it would be a serious embarrassment for Herr Kohl to have to dump the Franco-German Helios satellite, Herr Rühe also stuck pins in the Finance Minister by suggesting that there was no need to build new German transport helicopters.

These could be bought from the Americans, Herr Rühe said in his clenching argument. There is the rub — the main casualty from such a cut would be not only relations with Paris, but also Daimler-Benz Aerospace which, as it happens, is based in Herr Waigel's native Bavaria.

Cuts in the Eurofighter project would also cost jobs in Bavaria and cause a loss of face with the other members of the consortium, Britain, Italy and Spain. Herr Kohl has to bring order before a Cabinet meeting next week. In the meantime, the two powerful ministers are locked in the political equivalent of trench warfare.

Karadzic 'trick' frustrates West

BY STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

WILLIAM PERRY, the American Defence Secretary, admitted yesterday that Washington was still trying to decide how best to secure the removal of the renegade Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, from all political influence.

Only a day after Carl Bildt, the international mediator, announced that Dr Karadzic had resigned as President of the Bosnian Serb Republic under the threat of renewed economic sanctions, officials from Mr Bildt's office conceded that they had been tricked and that the indicted war criminal remained in charge.

Although Dr Karadzic signed a piece of paper saying that he was handing over his presidential duties to Biljana Plavsic, his headline Vice-President, he had not relinquished his title, nor his grip on power.

"This is not what we have

asked the leadership in Pale for," said Michael Steiner, Mr Bildt's deputy. "We wanted him to step down from all positions affecting public life. This simply is not good enough."

Mr Perry, meanwhile, told a news conference in Rome that Dr Karadzic's statement was a "first step", but added: "It should not, and must not, be a last step."

"We will see what it amounts to in practice," Mr Perry said when asked about the announcement. "It is my view that more must be done. It has to be clear that Karadzic is out of power and unable to influence events in the country."

Asked what more should be done, Mr Perry said follow-up action would be determined after it became clear what the announcement meant.

"That will become clear in

the days ahead, and as it becomes clear we can make a better decision about what the next steps will be," he added.

Nevertheless, Dr Karadzic's half-way measure seems to have worked. Officials from Mr Bildt's office acknowledged that Dr Karadzic's letter would be enough to stave off the threatened sanctions.

The threat that Dr Karadzic would be arrested by the Nato force also seem to have come to naught. After Anthony Lake, the US National Security Adviser, said US troops would arrest Dr Karadzic "on sight", Nato officials in Sarajevo said such tough talk did not reflect a change in Nato policy on war criminals.

"The troops have already been given orders to arrest on sight — that's exactly the orders they've had all along," said Major Simon Haselock, a Nato spokesman.

Admiral Leighton Smith, the commander of Nato forces in Bosnia, said: "We will do everything within our power to see Dr Karadzic removed from any position of power."

But when asked if that meant Nato troops could now seek out Dr Karadzic in his stronghold in the village of Pale, a spokesman for the admiral said Nato policy had not changed.

Mr Perry is bound for Sarajevo for talks with Bosnian leaders and a visit to Nato troops in northern Bosnia who have been criticised for not having been indicted by the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. □ Mostar: Bosnia's main Muslim governing party will wield a slight majority over separatist Croats on a new city council here after European Union-sponsored elections, officials said. (Reuters)



Tapie: five-year ban on managing business

Tapie gets suspended sentence

Béthune: Bernard Tapie, 53, the French former Cabinet Minister, was given a two-year suspended jail sentence after his third fraud conviction in less than a year.

He was also fined Fr300,000 (£39,000) and was banned from managing a business for five years for misappropriating funds from Testut, a company that was once part of his now defunct business empire.

Tapie, who is appealing against an eight-month jail term for rigging a football match when chairman of Olympique Marseilles, and a six-month term for tax fraud over a luxury yacht, will not appeal against this latest sentence. (Reuters)

Red letter day as Kohl drops his h's

BY ROGER BOYES

THE determination of Helmut Kohl to make German a match for English and Russian took a leap forward yesterday with the first big spelling reform since 1981.

The letter "h" will be dropped from spaghetti, rheumatism and yoghurt, some commas have become optional, and many foreign words will be Germanised: ketchup, for instance, becomes ketschup. The changes, which came into effect yesterday, end 12 years of simmering argument among linguists from Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Schools will introduce the new rules after the summer holidays. Textbooks are now being amended and reissued at a cost of about £600,000. The point is to make the German language simpler and more phonetic.

In a recent speech to the Goethe

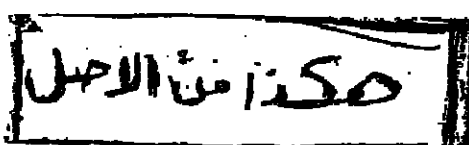
Institute, Germany's equivalent of the British Council, Herr Kohl, the German Chancellor, urged teachers to concentrate on spreading the German language in Central and Eastern Europe as well as the states of the former Soviet Union. This, he said, was not purely a question of economics, and it certainly was not "German linguistic imperialism". Rather, it was necessary to create mutual understanding if a united Europe were to be more than a loose group of interests and more than a free-trade zone.

Making German easier to learn fits into this strategy. It has always been a phonetic language, but many foreign words have crept in and muddled the rules. "Write as you speak," was the guideline set by Johan Christoph Adelung in the 18th century and it became the rule for the Prussian school

system. But what is one to make of tomato ketchup?

Some languages, such as Norwegian, have successfully adapted loan words: shampoo has become *sjampo*, chauffeur is *sjafoer*, chocolate *sjokolade*, and breakdance *breikdans*. The Norwegian Language Council claimed this with little fuss, but German linguists have been through years of hard bargaining.

There was a strong lobby in East Germany for writing nouns with a lower-case rather than a capital letter. Unification in 1990 put paid to that, however, because West Germans are very attached to their capitals. Some diles can now be written with a small letter but, in the end, only 185 out of about 12,000 German words have been changed. More markedly, along with the many acclies dropped, the sign for a double "s" is to go,



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Mongolian voters end 75 years of communist rule

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

AGAINST all predictions, Mongolia has voted resoundingly for the democratic opposition, ending 75 years of control by Communists and their heirs.

"Now we'll have a truly democratic government, and we'll improve the lives of the people," said Gungchigdorj, leader of the democratic coalition, after most of the results of Sunday's election were declared yesterday.

In what diplomats in Ulan Bator saw as a resounding vote for change in this second post-communist election, the general election committee announced that the opposition Democratic Union Coalition had won 48 out of 71 seats so far declared for the 76-seat Great Hural, or parliament.

The ruling Mongolian Revolutionary People's Party (MPPR), the former Communists, had won 23 seats, as opposed to 70 held in the outgoing parliament. Results for the final five seats had yet to be compiled, election officials said. There was a turnout of more than 90 per cent.

The general secretary of the MPPR fell to a virtual unknown from the democratic coalition, which is composed of the National Democratic Party (NDP), which won 33 seats, and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) which took 12 seats. These parties have historically been rivals and their coalition is a marriage of convenience which will now have to be sustained in power.



Non-party candidates in the coalition won three seats.

"This is the choice of the nation," said an official at MPPR headquarters, in the nearest ruling party came to conceding defeat.

Opposition candidates said the results surpassed their most optimistic predictions. Earlier, they had said they would be content to win a third of the seats. Jubilant opposition supporters danced, hugged each other and wept. In the 1992 elections, the opposition gained six seats.

However, foreign envoys said the democratic coalition, which campaigned for faster economic liberalisation and political reform, had its work cut out, given its lack of administrative experience and the parlous state of the economy in this vast nation of 2.4 million mainly nomadic people, who live in a country the size of Western Europe with vast herds of sheep, goats, cows, camels and horses.

In 1921 a revolutionary gov-

ernment came to power in Ulan Bator with help from the young Soviet Union, and the Mongolian People's Republic was proclaimed in 1924. It had bloody purges in the 1930s.

Moscow's tutelage at least prevented Mongolia becoming like Inner Mongolia and Tibet, part of China. But with the Soviet collapse, Moscow's grip on its remote satellite was broken. In the past few years, Mongolians have rediscovered their magnificent history, and portraits of Genghis Khan, executed by the former communist regime, are everywhere and an Ulan Bator hotel and a Mongolian vodka are named after him.

A 1994 United Nations report said that privatisation in Mongolia had failed to create an environment in which the market mechanism could operate efficiently, and the transition to a market economy has led to inflation, shortages and unemployment. About 22 per cent of the people live below the poverty line and the average wage is £23 a month.

Yet the situation has recently begun to improve in this mineral-rich country, with increased foreign investment.

"I thought we would never see this victory," said an elderly man who was among the group of pro-democracy hunger strikers whose massive street protests helped to end one-party communist rule in 1990.

Leading article, page 17

Ulan Bator's love affair with Britain

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

MONGOLIA and Britain have been conducting a long-distance, tentative, love affair since 1963, when Britain opened the first Western embassy in Ulan Bator.

The new Mongolian Government now has another reason to pursue a growing passion for Britain: President Ochirbat, who won the presidential election of June 1993 as a candidate for the democratic coalition, was fêted when he visited Britain in April. A

guest of Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, he met John Major, Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and had an audience with the Queen.

A royal connection with Ulan Bator already existed because the Princess Royal and Commander Tim Laurie once paid an official visit to Mongolia weeks after Mr Ochirbat was elected. The country's appetite for all things British has become

apparent in schools this year. Russian has been demoted in favour of English.

Trade is still modest: Britain imported nearly £2 million worth of goods from the sparsely populated country last year, and exported £3 million in return - about 15 per cent up on the previous year. But Mongolians hope for greater trade links and British companies are reportedly beginning to show an interest in investing.



Hillary Clinton meets child Aids patients at a Bucharest hospital yesterday. The treatment programme was set up by a British charity

How Hillary keeps head above Whitewater

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

PLAGUED by perpetual scandal, Hillary Clinton is taking secret strolls outside the White House, searching the inner depths of her Christian faith and consulting a close coterie of female friends in an attempt to remain cheerful.

The First Lady can be seen walking silently through the streets of Georgetown, the middle-class district of Washington where her daughter Chelsea is at school, free of the usual entourage of aides and the press corps. A respectfully distant team of Secret Service agents provides the sole clue to the identity of a woman almost unrecognisable in scarf and dark glasses.

White House aides say that her incognito walks to deliver Chelsea to Sidwell Friends School, and ambles to the Corcoran Gallery and the National Zoo are part of a personal strategy to keep Mrs Clinton's head above the morass of Whitewater. "Travelgate", "Filegate" and "Gurugate". "Seeing lots of ordinary people helps her keep things in perspective," one of Mrs Clinton's close friends told Newsweek yesterday. After one recent school visit, the First Lady and a friend bought lemonade from a five-

year-old and an apparently ebullient Mrs Clinton returned to the White House with the words: "It felt so normal."

Always a target for Republicans, her life has been anything but normal in recent months. She has been accused of hiding documents relating to the

'The First Lady can be seen walking silently through the streets, free of the usual entourage of aides and press'

failed Whitewater land venture, cited as the architect of the sacking of seven officials in the White House Travel Office and alleged to have hired Craig Livingston, the security chief who illegally collated FBI background files on more than 400 Republicans.

Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel on Whitewater, is closing in

on Mrs Clinton and, to make matters worse, she is now being portrayed as a New Age matron under the spell of Jean Houston, the self-styled Svengali of the baby boomers.

Her closest friends have apparently rallied behind the First Lady in her times of trouble. They include the "bracelet people", a group of eight women who gave Mrs Clinton a birthday charm inscribed with each of their initials in 1993. Even among their number, however, there is little solace to be found. Linda Bloodworth-Thomason, the Hollywood producer, is the wife of Harry Thomason, the man believed to have prompted the Travel Office sackings, and Diane Blair, a political scientist, is married to the man who helped Mrs Clinton to earn a suspiciously fast \$100,000 in cattle futures back in Arkansas.

The First Lady was able yesterday to forget her worries temporarily as thousands of Romanians crowded the centre of Bucharest to welcome her on a ten-day visit to seven countries in Eastern Europe to pay tribute to the efforts of charities and other aid agencies.

Mrs Clinton said that, although it had only been six years since the fall of

communism, "progress is obvious, reflecting the tremendous efforts that have been made". Among the stops on the First Lady's tour were Colentina Hospital in Bucharest where about 100 children are being treated for Aids, after a series of projects were established by Health Aid UK. The British-based charity has trained Romanian staff, set up homes for the children and supplied the hospital with medications and other materials.

Mrs Clinton was later due to meet President Iliescu at Cotroceni Palace and also visited the grave of Corneliu Coposu, the Romanian dissident and opposition leader who died recently.

On her solitary trip Mrs Clinton will have her strong Christian faith as a prop. "It's a driving force within her," said Dan Thomason, Harry's brother and Mrs Clinton's optometrist in Arkansas. Mr Thomason, a songwriter who pens Christian music, recently wrote a hymn and dedicated it to the First Lady when she visited the state earlier this year.

"I was lost, then you came and found me," he sang. "Take my hand, stay by me." When Mr Thomason took her to the airport, Mrs Clinton whispered in his ear: "Stay by me."

Vietnamese party keeps old guard

FROM REUTERS IN HANOI

VIETNAM'S Communist Party wrapped up its eighth congress yesterday with a revamped leadership, a discordant brass-band fanfare, and obedient applause from 1,200 weary delegates.

Do Muoi, 79, was re-elected general secretary at the head of an expanded 19-member politburo. Also retained were President Le Duc Anh, 75, and Vo Van Kiet, 73, the Prime Minister. Their positions will have to be ratified by the National Assembly, but the decision to keep them in the politburo means that they continue alongside Mr Muoi as the country's leadership triumvirate.

In a bizarre twist of party logic, Nguyen Dinh Tu, who died last Friday, was included on the new politburo list.

Congress delegates approved, as expected, a policy blueprint charting Vietnam's course into the 21st century. The five-year government plan endorses continuation of a reform process begun in the late 1980s, but with emphasis on national security and other measures aimed at ensuring firm state control.

Although a veteran revolutionary, Mr Muoi is seen as an important stabilising factor in a political landscape teeming with hardliners, the military, reformers and technocrats.

Netanyahu loses job 'over burnt soup'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

BYNAYIM NETANYAHU yesterday paid the price of being Israel's first populist Prime Minister when his sacked nanny went to the media. It was a Cinderella tale that dominated the Hebrew press and army radio.

South African-born Tanya Shaw, 21, a new immigrant to Israel, alleged that Mr Netanyahu's third wife, Sara, a former El Al stewardess who played a leading role in his election campaign in May, threw her out on the street and called her a "murderer" after a row over burnt soup.

The dispute cast an unexpected shadow over his trip to Washington next week. His two sons, Yair, five, and Avner, 18 months, are to travel with him and Sara and the nanny had been scheduled to look after them.

Maariv on its front page yesterday asked: "Why was the nanny... sacked yesterday? Did she pose a security threat, as was claimed by the Prime Minister's office, or was it because she let the soup burn, thus stirring the wrath of Sara Netanyahu?"

The nanny, thrown out of the Netanyahu's home by a guard, claimed that Mrs Netanyahu screamed at her "every day". She told army radio that Sara, 35, was obsessed with cleanliness, making her wash her hands repeatedly.

"Serious journalism should not be occupied with things like this, especially because it is only the word of the person who it is clear is a bit disturbed," the Prime Minister's new communications director, David Bar-Ilan, a former editor of the Jerusalem Post, told the radio. His interviewer asked: "She is a little disturbed, you say?" Mr Bar-Ilan: "I do not know. I have no idea. I do not know her."

Interviewer: "So, if you do not know her, that is a serious thing to say about a person."

The interviewer claimed that since Mr Netanyahu's campaign and presidential style of office had thrust his wife and their two children

into the limelight, the media was obliged to cover his family life to the same degree.

When Miss Shaw was asked if she was disturbed, she said: "If anybody is unstable it is her [Sara]... If I am so unstable, could she let me be with her children for six months?" Miss Shaw said when "Sara screamed at her" she had said: "Well, maybe I should go, I am giving you two weeks' notice. Sara said: 'Because you are leaving my children, you are like a murderer'."

An argument flared again and Sara Netanyahu ordered her out. Miss Shaw told the radio: "I was crying and I said to her: 'But what about my things?' She said: 'Get out, and if you want your clothes you must give me 5,000 shekels [£1,000]. She also had my passport because I was meant to go to America." The demand for money was linked to a contract penalty clause.

Miss Shaw said she returned to the house and a guard handed her the passport. She returned again to find her bags "thrown" by the gate. Miss Shaw told Maariv that the Prime Minister's wife, who has been accused of playing an imperious role in the "Hillary Clinton" fashion, had removed from her belongings all photographs showing her with Mr Netanyahu.



Tanya Shaw: thrown out

Rich pickings for Asian billionaires

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

ASIA is fast challenging America's title as the "billionaire belt" of the globe, according to the latest survey of grade one plutocrats.

Two Americans, Bill Gates, of Microsoft computers, and market speculator Warren Buffett, headed the annual Forbes magazine list of billionaires. Their fortunes are worth \$18 billion (£11.7 billion) and \$15.3 billion respectively. In third place was a Swiss, Paul Sacher, of Roche pharmaceuticals. But Asians accounted for five of the ten richest men in the world. Of the 447 billionaires identified by Forbes, 123 are from Asia.

"It's Asia's turn," said the magazine, noting that the continent which was

"largely a backward area at the end of the Second World War is now home to more than one in four of the world's great fortunes". The richest Asian was said to be Lee Shau-kee, a Hong Kong property tycoon with \$12.7 billion to his name.

In a list of the world's richest families, Britain's food business managed to supply the 49th-placed Sainsburys, with \$4.1 billion, and the 51st-placed Garry Westons with \$3.3 billion.

The richest family in the world, with \$22.9 billion, is the Waltons, owners of the Wal-Mart shops in America. Worldwide sales of chocolate bars helped the Mars family to second place, with \$12 billion.

In the family stakes, Hong Kong property again provided boom stories. The Kwok Brothers are estimated to have

\$11.2 billion, the Cheng Yu-tung have built a fortune of \$5.5 billion, the Fongs (Teng and Robert Ng) have \$5.2 billion and tiny, pig-tailed Nina Wong and her estate have \$3.3 billion. There are 20 billionaire fortunes in Hong Kong, which next year will come under Communist Chinese rule.

The richest woman in the world, according to the survey, is Liliane Bettencourt, heir to the make-up empire of L'Oréal. She is worth \$5 billion.

Old American money names are still to be found, but many are less prominent than they were. The pharmaceutical du Ponts are still riding high with \$10 billion, but the Rockefellers must these days make do with \$6.2 billion, and the Kochs are worth only \$3.6 billion, \$0.4 billion more than the Tisch brothers.

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When yellow signals danger for a baby

Jaundice in the newborn is sometimes far from harmless

SERIOUS liver disease in newborn babies is quite rare, which is just as well for the babies and their parents as we — doctors, midwives and nurses — are not good at diagnosing it.

The probable reason why so many cases of liver disease in babies are missed until too late is that jaundice is so very common in newborn children that there is a natural but sometimes lethal inclination to "wait and see".

Nine out of ten babies become jaundiced on the second, third or fourth day after delivery. Their complexion is not necessarily bright yellow or muddy green, as is seen in cases of jaundice witnessed in adult life. At first sight the baby looks as if it has a Mediterranean tan. Only when the whites of its eyes and its

breast-fed babies are no less likely than bottle-fed ones to have serious liver disease, this jaundice needs assessing after the fourteenth day by means of a simple test on the baby's urine. In both these forms of benign jaundice, the urine should be free of the bilirubin pigment and of a variable colour, not always dark yellow but sometimes as pale as water.

The indications that jaundice in a baby needs immediate explanation, even if the baby is putting on weight, eating voraciously and appears to be thriving, are if the yellow skin colour lasts for more than 14 days, if the motions are unusually pale, if the urine is always very yellow and never colourless, or if the baby bleeds or bruises easily.

The Children's Liver Disease Foundation recently met at the House of Commons to discuss the latest report on the condition. It made depressing reading for, despite an average of two learned papers on neonatal jaundice appearing in doctors' journals each year for the past 15 years, all of which



DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

stressed the need for early testing and referral to specialists of jaundiced babies, most were still being referred too late to achieve good results.

Catherine Arkley, the director of the foundation, has good reason to campaign for improved diagnosis. One of her four children suffered from atresia — obstruction of an underdeveloped bile duct. Although her son was seen at three weeks by a paediatrician, surgery was not undertaken until after eight weeks. It was not a success, and the baby died at nine months.

Specialist surgeons need to operate on babies before they are eight weeks old. Unfortunately surgery takes time to arrange so the sooner the child reaches one of England's two supra-regional centres for paediatric liver disease — the Birmingham Children's Hospital and King's College Hospital, London — the greater the chance of recovery.

The sad statistic is that in the first four years of life, liver disease still causes more deaths than either leukaemia or cystic fibrosis. The cost, whether in terms of family misery or NHS expenditure, is enormous.



Sold by the adman's image... deodorants and toiletries can vary greatly in price from country to country

A global guide to bare necessities

AMERICA

Burial: £4,666. Hamburger: £4. Knickers: three pairs for £5.60. Deodorant stick: £1.98. Made-to-measure man's suit: £600. Boarding school, annual fee: £14,000 for 12-year-old child. Live-in nanny: £200 a week. Maid: £165 a week (five-hour day, five-day week). Weekly supermarket bill for family of four: £145. Medium family car: £9,420. 20 cigarettes: £1.50. Pint of beer: £3. Bottle of wine: £6.

RUSSIA

Burial: £385. Hamburger: 76p. Knickers: £2.50. Deodorant:

From school fees to the price of a burger — Day Two of a breakdown of living costs around the world

£1.90. Suit: £166. School fees: £9,000. Nanny: £80. Maid: £48. Grocery bill: £64. Car: £5,128. Cigarettes: 50p. Beer: 50p. Wine: £2.60.

ITALY

Burial: £1,270. Hamburger: £2.50. Groceries: £100. Knickers: £5. Deodorant: £6. Suit: £850. School fees: £9,000. Nanny: £192. Maid: £125. Car: £14,680. Cigarettes: £2.10. Beer: £3.40. Wine: £3.

BRAZIL

Burial: £263-£2,083. Hamburger: £2. Groceries: £83. Knickers: £3.50. Deodorant: £1.60. Suit: £320. School fees: £2,304. Nanny: £196. Maid: £105. Car: £11,805. Cigarettes: £2.34. Beer: £3.74. Wine: £9.36.

SWITZERLAND

Burial: £1,300. Hamburger: £1.60. Groceries: £188. Knickers: £7. Deodorant: £3. Suit: £450. School fees: £750-£900 (not boarding). Nanny: £450. Maid: £310. Car: £13,200. Cigarettes: £1.95. Beer: £1.75. Wine: £4.

PORTUGAL

Burial: £534-£1,150. Hamburger: 62p. Groceries: £205. Knickers: £3.70. Deodorant: £1.23. Suit: £329. School fees: American school, £7,874. British school, £9,241. Local school, £2,100. Nanny: £82. Maid: £92. Car: £7,693. Cigarettes: £1.31. Beer: £1.64. Wine: £2.46.

SPAIN

Burial: £1,000. Hamburger: £2. Groceries: £150. Knickers: £7. Deodorant: £3. Suit: £350. School fees: £750. Nanny: £150. Maid: £112. Car: £17,000. Cigarettes: £1.60. Beer: £1. Wine: £2.

INDIA

Burial: £20. Hamburger: £2. Groceries: £40. Knickers: £1. Deodorant: £2. Suit: £100. School fees: £480. Nanny: £10. Maid: £6. Car: £11,000. Cigarettes: 60p. Beer: 50p. Wine: £8.

NORWAY

Burial: £1,000. Hamburger:

£4.50. Groceries: £85. Knickers: £4.50. Deodorant: £2.80. Suit: £110. School fees (only one private school, a sixth-form crammer, in country): £3,200. Nanny (student): £35, plus board. Maid: £200. Car: £18,000. Cigarettes: £4.50. Beer: £3.70. Wine: £12.

MALAYSIA

Burial: £2,000. Hamburger: £1. Groceries: £100. Knickers: £4. Deodorant: £2. Suit: £100. School fees: £3,000. Nanny: £50. Maid: £50. Car: £25,000. Cigarettes: £1. Beer: £2. Wine: £10.

CANADA

Burial: £2,000. Hamburger: 75p. Groceries: £75. Knickers: £5. Deodorant: £1.10. Suit: £300. School fees: £4,800. Very few pay fees, as the state schools are excellent. Nanny: £140. Maid: £200. Car: £10,000. Cigarettes: £1.40. Beer: 55p. Wine: £5.

NEW ZEALAND

Burial: £2,500. Hamburger: £1.50. Groceries: £80. Knickers: £6. Deodorant: £2. Suit: £350. School fees (very few private schools): £6,000. Nanny: £250 (or a student for £40 pocket money). Maid: £125. Car: £12,000. Cigarettes: £2.50. Beer: £1.40. Wine: £8.

FRANCE

Burial: £1,500. Hamburger: 80p. Groceries: £187.50. Knickers: £5.40. Deodorant: £3.80. Suit: £302.50. School fees: £5,400. Nanny: £140. Maid: £207. Car: £6,500. Cigarettes: £2.30. Beer: £2.50. Wine: £4.40.

GREECE

Burial: £1,000. Hamburger: £2.30. Groceries: £244. Knickers: £4.30. Deodorant: £2.30. Suit: £244. School fees: £3,245. Nanny: £100. Maid: £81. Car: £12,170. Cigarettes: £1.50. Beer: £2.45. Wine: £3.80.

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AMERICA

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Colonial-style house, NY 4 beds, 3 receps, 3 baths, large kitchen. Special features: High ceilings, huge "deck" for barbecues, in upstate Chappaqua.



£250,000

Colonial-style house, Rye 3 beds, 2 receps, 3 baths, workshop, 2 baths, kitchen. Special features: In pretty town on the waterfront of Long Island Sound.



£90,000

Bungalow, Mahopac, NY Pretty 1946 bungalow, 3 beds. Special features: A white picket fence and small garden. Hardwood floors, plenty of charm. Once a popular summer resort.



INDIA

£500,000

Large house, Delhi 5 beds, 2 receps, study, 5 baths, kitchen plus pantry, 2 servant quarters. Special features: Overlooks park in elite neighbourhood.



£250,000

House in Nizamuddin East 3 beds, 1 recep, study, 3 baths, kitchen, servant quarters. Special feature: Middle-class New Delhi neighbourhood.



£90,000

Small flat Located in middle-class neighbourhood of Nizamuddin East, Delhi. 2 beds, 1 recep, study, 2 baths, kitchen, servant quarters.



FRANCE

£500,000

Third-floor apartment 3 beds, 2 receps, 3 baths, kitchen, separate studio. Special features: In exclusive 6th arrondissement, Paris.



£250,000

Second-floor apartment 1 bed apartment with dressing-room, 2 receps, 1 bath. Special features: West-facing terrace in quiet area. In 5th arrondissement.



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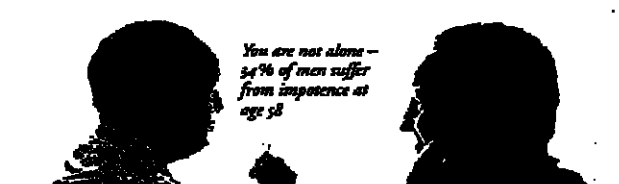
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Why Dole can't play the war card

Diane Kunz on Vietnam, the draft and class in America

Despite Whitewater, Bob Dole still trails Bill Clinton in the opinion polls. The Republican candidate has tried reinventing himself, resigning his Senate seat and renouncing his Washington identity. Nothing seems to work. Why then, has he not played the one card he does have — his record as a certified war hero? Dole may advertise his war wounds but he avoids emphasising his war service, even though it stands in total contrast to Clinton's draft dodger tag.

The explanation for this failure says little about Dole and much about the last taboo in America — the subject of class. Almost no one doing their first degree at university during the years 1968-72 served in Vietnam and very few who were pursuing postgraduate study served, either. To criticise Clinton is to denigrate most American baby boomer politicians — of both parties. Dole is trapped — the Republican glass house is as fragile as the Democratic one.

How different it was during the "good war". The Second World War-vintage draft was a virtually universal male duty. To be a "draft-dodger" was a term of opprobrium. Far more common were the young men such as George Bush who lied about their age in order to serve in the armed forces.

The outbreak of the Cold War and the shooting conflict in Korea spawned a renewed draft, which continued after the Korean War ended in 1953. In peacetime, the two years' service was an easily accepted inconvenience. Yet this draft had a difference: Washington policymakers, obsessed with the space race and Soviet-American scientific competition, allowed plentiful student deferments. Anyone doing a first degree at university was exempt from the draft, as were postgraduates.

The commitment of American ground troops to combat in Vietnam in early 1965 catapulted the draft into a prime issue in American politics. One year later, the curbing of student deferments made it topic A on university campuses. No longer could students avoid the possibility of bloodshed by spinning out their academic careers. Instead, once they received their first degree, American men could look forward to an ominous letter from their local draft board. Whatever support the Vietnam War had on campuses quickly disappeared as the prospect of an all-expenses paid trip to Saigon became a reality.

In an era where the cult of the individual had reached epic proportions, the privileged and articulate children of the upper class often concluded that it was more noble to avoid the draft than to acquiesce in a war in a faraway country of which they knew little. That much of the opposition to the war was principled in nature should not overshadow the plain fact that the university anti-war movement drew its strength from the widespread desire to avoid military service once the shooting war was on.

It is no accident that major protests against the Vietnam War coincided with the circus-style jump-up with Paul Gascoigne on his stag night at the weekend. The footballer, who was central to the frolics on England's return flight from Hong Kong before Euro 96, invited his mother Carol, 53, as guest of honour. There could have been no better policewoman.

Firebrands such as the Middle-borough manager Bryan Robson and Liverpool's Steve McManaman (always a man to take his shirt off) didn't dare put a foot wrong when the formidable lady was called in to party.

Mum's the word: Carol

cumscripting of student deferments. From 1967 to 1973 (when Richard Nixon ended the draft) the federal government accused more than 200,000 men of draft offences, more than 25,000 were indicted and over 10,000 men fled to Canada and elsewhere. But these numbers play down the reality of draft avoidance. Far more numerous were those who supported the war as long as someone else fought it.

It turned out to be very easy to escape the draft legally. Until 1970, when the draft lottery began, anyone at university had a four-year grace period. Those with connections found various ways out. National Guard service — accepting a posting in Dad's Army-type regiments that practised at weekends and in the summer — worked, as former Vice-President Dan Quayle can attest. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, served his country by pursuing his doctoral degree in history. President Clinton's frantic manoeuvres are well known. Phil Gramm, a former presidential contender, taught economics. Instructively, George Bush's sons (one of whom is now Governor of Florida, another Governor of Texas) did not go to Vietnam. Only Vice-President Al Gore stands apart. With political ambitions of his own and knowing that his father, Senator Al Gore Sr., a Vietnam dove, faced a difficult campaign for re-election, Al Jr ended up in Saigon.

So who served? Contrary to legend, the army was not made up of uneducated louts but rather boasted the proud sons of the American middle and lower-middle class. Younger than Second World War draftees, usually 19 or 20, they watched, embittered, as their more fortunate peers spent their youth fulfilling themselves Stateside. High school graduates outnumbered both high school dropouts and university graduates. Black Americans served in proportion to their numbers in the general population. The Vietnam vets were the backbone of America — the white males who didn't make it to university and who now feel that the rapid changes in American life have disadvantaged them. These are the voters to whom Republicans successfully appealed in the 1994 election campaign. It was these angry, though no longer young, men who handed Republicans control over Congress for the first time in decades.

The new crop of Republican leaders who will inherit the party after Dole's political demise want to win over these swing voters for ever. But Gingrich and company know that the draft issue will backfire. Vietnam-era draft service was a matter of class, and raising issues of class in a supposedly classless society is a recipe for disaster, particularly when most Republicans will be found wanting too. So Dole will keep silent. He, too, has become a victim of America's longest war.

The author is Associate Professor of History at Yale University.



The cruelty of kindness

The RSPCA's capture by extremists is bad for animals — and country life

I used to be part of the warp and weft of national life: a proud institution with deep roots, working steadily towards better treatment for a powerless and exploited group. It sought consensus; it was fiery but fair.

This, however, was too boring for the activists. So they overran its committees, seized the initiative and incorporated impossible demands into its manifesto. In doing so they alienated swaths of its natural supporters until the proud old institution tottered. It took years for a painful, argumentative recovery to get under way, and during those years its old enemies flourished to perpetrate all the injustices which it was founded to combat.

The history of the late 20th-century Labour Party is now being uncannily repeated in the history of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. An honest institution is being hijacked by extremists: those of us who grew up in a time when decent people automatically put money on the tip-up tray of those beguiling plastic dogs now hesitate, shake our heads and pass by.

For the RSPCA has already clashed with the Charity Commissioners over its intemperate political campaigns, and yesterday this paper reported another development in the battle for its soul. This centres on a proposed rule change which would exclude supporters of field sports. The British Field Sports Association has indeed been practising "entryism": its members have been joining the RSPCA in droves. But why not? Lord Mancroft, in his letter to *The Times*, points out that its supporters form "the largest number of dog and horse owners in the country, are responsible for the management of most of Britain's wildlife and a large proportion of its farm animals — exactly, you would think, the people you want in an animal welfare charity".

The RSPCA council wants to block these 88,000 potential members by requiring applicants to sign a declaration that they "do not participate in any activity which is considered by the Society to involve avoidable suffering to animals". Note those words: "is considered by the Society". If they left those out, the RSPCA would be in the embarrassing position of chucking out anyone who eats mass-produced pork and bacon, battery eggs, farmed fish, turkey burgers, or products from dairy cows which stagger to bear the weight of

distended udders. They would have to ban users of medicines or household products involving fish-oil, the "harvesting" of which starves puffins and other seabirds. They would exclude greenfield builders, residents of new estates, non-organic arable farmers, combine-drivers who decapitate dormice and anyone with a neat striped lawn. Or a car. Or an overbred (or overfed) dog. As for all the animals who cause needless suffering to other animals, they would never get a card: it is all very well being kind to foxes or magpies, but when you have seen a shredded

populist attacks on all field sports. I cherish a particularly rich one in the *Sunday People*, where a secretary wrote to Dr Vernon Coleman complaining that her workmates ribbed her for being a hunt follower. His caring doctorly reply went: "I am delighted that your life is miserable. I hope things get worse for you. The social psychopaths who hunt wild animals are intellectually deprived, parentally challenged, bloodthirsty port louts. People like you who go out and watch are even worse." He suggested she took up bungee-jumping and omitted to tie the rope. It was the authentic voice of the animal liberator, and it was, for a while, quite popular.

Things have moved on. The field-sports lobby have got themselves together, stopped sounding like Lord Snooty and begun intelligently to make the case for their pastimes. A group of Labour supporters, galvanised by the party's commitment to ban fox-hunting, founded Leave Country Sports Alone: early supporters included David Puttnam, Jeremy Isaacs, Penny Mortimer and Sir Dennis Foreman.

In a powerful *Open Space* documentary a few years back they made, at last, the case for ordinary country people who live close to nature and animals and take their part in the eternally predatory chain of life. As one vet mused, the entire life of a wild creature consists of either hunting or being hunted, of flight and fight, so we might as well join in the game — as long as we don't take unfair advantage.

Which, of course, we do all the time in other ways: pollution, agricultural chemicals, development. The best argument of the new generation of campaigners is that without field sports, wildlife would suffer an appalling loss of habitat: the great arable prairies may be vegetarians but they're hedgerows and headlands and feed on killer chemicals. Like it or not, much native British wildlife now depends on the coverts, moorland, hedges, and wetland pro-

served only by field sportsmen. That argument swung me, and I am not untypical. I neither hunt nor shoot, am soft on moles and spiders, and haven't touched veal or battery eggs for years. Yet I accept that a minority of foxes, hares, ducks, pheasants and even stags should end their free outdoor lives at the hands of my bloodthirsty neighbours if it helps to keep the countryside varied and unpolluted. There is proof that this rueful acceptance is gaining ground: during the five years when the arguments have been properly aired, the number of those opposing field sports has fallen, in the polls Lord Mancroft quotes, from 83 per cent to 65 per cent. Even the RSPCA's own polls show it falling to the mid Seventies. Environmentalism and commonsense are slowly winning.

It follows that if the RSPCA keeps harping on field sports it will, suicidally marginalise itself. There are those even on its present council who know this and fear it. If it becomes yet another shrill, anthropomorphic, veggie animal rights lobby it will lose its credibility, and probably its charitable status.

The crying shame is that we need it now as never before. The old RSPCA is still there, under the nonsense. Its local inspectors gallantly battle against thoughtless cruelties from puppy-farming to discarded ring-pulls. It makes some effort for the welfare of farm animals: it set up the "Freedom Food" label in 1993 (although that has not been much of a success, with rocky finances and poor public recognition: it would have done better to endorse organic farming, and save habitat as well as farm animals). The RSPCA even works with the Humane Slaughter Association which, without glamour or fuss, improves the dying moments of food animals. This very week the HSA has a mobile slaughterhall at the Royal Show. By going to remote farms and sparing animals travel, that device will prevent more terror and exhaustion than any amount of hunt saboteurs.

The RSPCA supported it, which proves that its heart and brain are still there, but you won't catch its veggie leaders mentioning it. They would rather wave dead foxes in our faces and bring cases about the emotional trauma of goldfish. The parallel with old Labour is more and more irresistible: does the RSPCA really want to embark on years of embittered, splintered impotence?

Look back for a moment: in the early 1980s I chaired a television debate on the subject, and the anti-hunt all the best tunes. The British Field Sports Society sat glowering, confirming the general view that they were thick, arrogant fat-cats in flat hats. One eventually stood up and said "Remember, it's not the huntsmen who kill the fox, it's the hounds", pronouncing it "hy-unds". Such dimwits, wrapped in old money and old land, provoked intemperate

heartening to discover, then, that Antonio Carluccio, a Covent Garden chef, is supplying the food. Carluccio was recorded down to a food critic as being so fat that, whether standing up or lying down, he was the same shape.

Vi-tality

LUVVIES turned out in their droves the other day to honour one of the toughest of backstage hands. Vi Marriott, indomitable theatre producer and backstage fixer, was celebrating 50 years in the business. She ran the Young Vic theatre for many years and is now in her eighth decade.

Kathleen Griffin, who gave the young girl her first job as a secretary at the Old Vic, recalled her first tentative hours under Larry Olivier: "Vi was called down to take notes while Larry was auditioning. When she came back she couldn't read a word of her shorthand. 'Just make it up,' I said. 'I can't,' she said. Just then the internal phone rang and it was Larry. 'I've decided to scrub the lot,' he said. So Vi stayed."

Oh boy

WHEN football tickets hit the Royal Household, one ink-stained pair

A smack of firm autocracy

Blair wants clear red water, says Woodrow Wyatt

Tony Blair has shown courage and skill in pushing Labour towards look-alike Toryism. He favours an autocratic approach, anxious to show that he offers "the smack of firm government". The phrase first appeared in an article by Donald McLachlan in *The Daily Telegraph* on January 3, 1996, in which he accused Anthony Eden, then Prime Minister, of indecisiveness. "To emphasise a point he would clench one fist to smack the open palm of the other hand — but the smack is seldom heard." Thus it is with Blair's proposed constitutional changes for Scotland and Wales.

Originally, his followers accepted and understood that Scotland was to have its own legislature including the power to raise taxes; and that Wales was to have its own assembly. There was to be no referendum or consultation with the Scottish and Welsh on the subject. That was "the smack of firm government". But finding this none too popular in England, whence he must win a majority if he is to form a government, the Eden-style indecisiveness reared its head. The referendum previously denied Scotland and Wales was to be granted and a majority of one would be sufficient to establish a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly.

It is on constitutional change and Europe that Mr Blair intends to put clear red water between himself and Mr Major. At first glance referendums might be thought welcome. But those conducted on March 1, 1979, under the aegis of the Government of James Callaghan (another indecisive character), contained a provision that on so serious an issue as devolution a simple majority would not be enough. If less than 40 per cent of those entitled to vote voted yes, devolution was out. Scotland's "yes" vote was only 32.85 per cent of the electorate, though it was slightly higher than the "no" vote at 30.78 per cent. In Wales the noes to devolution beat the yeses by 46.92 per cent to 11.92 per cent.

This makes Mr Blair's insistence on another Welsh referendum so absurd that Paul Flynn, Labour MP for Newport West, in a furious attack on Mr Blair, declared on the BBC *Today* programme yesterday that the main effect of another referendum would be to cause dangerous splits. That a simple majority of Scots entitled to vote would say yes to a Scottish parliament seems certain. A recent opinion poll even indicates that there would be a majority for a Scottish parliament having the power to raise its own taxation.

The Act of Union of 1701 left untouched Scotland's legal and education systems — both superior in many respects to those in England and Wales. The Westminster Parliament cannot vote to alter them. It is unthinkable that, after Scottish devolution, Scottish MPs should be allowed to vote on English matters. There are at present 49 Labour MPs sitting for the 72 Scottish seats (13 more than their population justifies when compared to England's). Devolution would mean there would never be another effective Labour government. Similarly, there are 40 Welsh constituencies, of which 27 are represented by Labour MPs. A devolved Welsh assembly should result in the number of Welsh seats being reduced to 34, making it still harder for a Labour government to be elected.

So, knowing all this, what will be autocrat Blair's next surprise somersault? Most probably an alliance with the Liberal Democrats with three or four places assured in the Cabinet of a Lib-Lab government plus the promise of proportional representation. This would infuriate great swaths of old Labour who might even refrain from voting.

One minor constitutional change is worth making. There is no sense in having 24 bishops and two archbishops of the Church of England in the House of Lords, even though the majority of them may please Mr Blair by praising him for being more Christian than the Tories. The Welsh and Scottish Churches are disestablished and have come to no harm. If there are to be religious leaders in the Lords they should be selected by the authorities of all the religions concerned, including Roman Catholics, Jews, Muslims and Hindus. Otherwise the Lords needs no tinkering with.

The most dangerous of all the constitutional changes Mr Blair intends is with regard to the European Union. The surrender to qualified majority voting and enthusiastic acceptance of the edicts of the Brussels; the determination to join the exchange-rate mechanism and a single currency dragging us ever closer into a federated United States of Europe, would lose the United Kingdom all vestige of independence. Mr Blair is not indecisive about his sincere conviction that Britain is declining to second, or third-rate nation status. For him it is in acceptance of German and French hegemony that our future lies and he naively believes that this is also Washington's view. Fortunately, this feeble attitude is not shared by most of the British, who put their faith in trade across the seas from which we have a surplus, and not in trade with our EU partners with whom we usually have a deficit.

Mother hen

THERE was no chance of a Cathay Pacific-style jump-up with Paul Gascoigne on his stag night at the weekend. The footballer, who was central to the frolics on England's return flight from Hong Kong before Euro 96, invited his mother Carol, 53, as guest of honour. There could have been no better policewoman.

Firebrands such as the Middle-borough manager Bryan Robson and Liverpool's Steve McManaman (always a man to take his shirt off) didn't dare put a foot wrong when the formidable lady was called in to party.

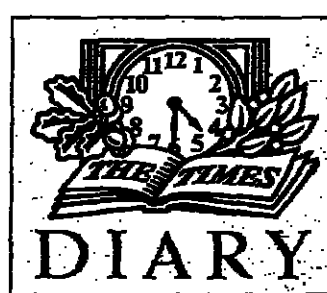
Mum's the word: Carol

It was at half-time during the Euro 96 final when Gazza emerged from the private suite at the Swallow Hotel in Waltham Abbey, where the stages were beginning to build up steam, and shouted in the direction of the bar: "Mum."

Mum was being summoned to watch video highlights of her son's performance in Euro 96. She emerged beaming an hour or so later and returned to the bar. Her son ambled out only to visit the gents, accompanied by two bodyguards, and was safely tucked up in bed by 1.15am. Little wonder he was so chipper at breakfast the next morning, where he appeared clad only in boxer shorts.

Cross court

THE NEW Lord of the Manor of Wimbledon may be forced to fight his corner just days after snapping up the title from Earl Spencer for £188,000. The Garter King of Arms, ultimate authority on matters heraldic, is investigating the coat of arms featured on the certificate of armorial bearings issued last week to its owner, who remains anonymous.



The arms features crossed tennis rackets and strawberries, a far cry from the armorial bearings described on the certificate — and even those are questioned by the Garter. "I am looking at this certainly. The document doesn't actually appear to make sense," he says. "It is distressing, to put it mildly. It gives the appearance of being official when it clearly isn't."

Trumped

IN THE SPIRIT of Ivana Trump, Prince Michael of Kent has invited the press to his birthday party. Mrs Trump set the gold standard for self-promotion when she in-

vited all of her dear, dear friends in the media to her engagement party two years ago. Today Prince Michael will publicly wrestle fairly cake past his beard at the Grosvenor House Hotel as the birthday guest of the James Myatt Memorial Trust surrounded by "Shenda's exciting nudes" — sadly not an exotic revue but rather the works of the sculptor Shenda Amery.

News that Luciano Pavarotti is dying on steamed fish and lentils has thrown catering arrangements for the Three Tenors concert this weekend into disarray. How



heartening to discover, then, that Antonio Carluccio, a Covent Garden chef, is supplying the food. Carluccio was recorded down to a food critic as being so fat that, whether standing up or lying down, he was the same shape.

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Oh boy

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Downpatrick: a royal treat

of hands reaches them faster than any other. Lord Downpatrick, 7, son of Earl St Andrews, must be the keenest football fan within shooting distance of the Throne.

In the sea of comatose expressions in the royal box at Sunday's Euro 96 final, his *Famous Five* face peered over the shoulders of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Like most impressionable young boys, he supports Manchester United, and wangled a seat for the FA Cup Final from his grandfather the Duke of Kent, president of the FA.

P.H.S

حكايا من الامم



UNDER FIRE

Michael Portillo's privatisation deserves Tory support

Every institutional reform by this Government — from trade unions to nationalised industries — has been a struggle against vested interests and Labour MPs. Success, when it has come, has come because the radical reformers in the Conservative Party have stood together.

This week a Ministry of Defence reform which could improve both the national finances and the quality of service life is threatened by predictable opponents whose stance is rooted in the past. But Michael Portillo's plans to privatise the Armed Forces' married quarters are also under fire from Conservatives who would normally be expected to support such moves. The motives of Mr Portillo's opponents seem to be the advancement of the cause of his likely rival in a future Tory leadership contest, John Redwood. They should realise that attempts to sabotage the sale will bring unnecessary alarm to service families, damage to their party and a threat to the future effectiveness of the Armed Forces.

Soldiers, sailors and airmen have had to endure change at an uncomfortable pace over the past five years. The enforced economies of Options for Change and Front Line First have added to the strains that service life already imposes on the military. Retrenchment has been no less difficult for being necessary. The privatising of married quarters ought to be a source of hope for better lives ahead. Instead it has aroused only further fears of upheaval.

The sale of service housing will release £100 million for refurbishment, money the Treasury would not otherwise spend. Soldiers' families in the MoD's more dilapidated properties will experience some long overdue upgrading. Morale has indeed been tested by recent changes. There is a clear need for improvement in the lives of military families. If privatisation were thwarted these aims would be threatened.

This does not seem to have been well explained by the MoD and service chiefs. Families see themselves uprooted for the convenience of commercial landlords. They accept that service life demands mobility. They have been told the terms under which

the MoD will lease back property, the guarantees that service families will live in coherent, secure communities at rents fixed by the same independent review body which guarantees service pay. But they are distrustful — and their distrust is fuelled by politicians who should know better.

There is no justification, in principle, for the State to own soldiers' houses. Indeed the MoD has proved a highly inefficient landlord with 12,000 of its 58,000 homes empty. Conservatives fought throughout the Eighties to establish that the operation of the market and the vigour of the private sector were the best guarantee of quality. Margaret Thatcher's followers believed that the State should act as enabler, not provider. Labour may no longer believe in nationalisation; its advocates appear still, however, to survive on the Conservative back benches.

Several Tory MPs associated with John Redwood's leadership bid last year have been leading the campaign against privatisation. They may consider that they are doing Mr Redwood a favour by undermining Mr Portillo on this and other issues. They are almost certainly wrong. Their actions run counter to Mr Redwood's own words and the broader Tory principles which he courageously fought for last July. In *The Times* last August Mr Redwood put the case for the sale of MoD homes to free money for tax cuts, arguing that empty properties in his own part of Berkshire were "a permanent scar on the village".

The sale of property could help towards both the tax cuts advocated by Mr Redwood and the home improvements promised by Mr Portillo: in either case a sound Thatcherite policy would lead to the impeccably Disraelian goal of an improvement in the condition of the people. Opponents of the current privatisation are undermining the philosophical platform from which any future revival of the Conservative Party should be launched, as well as imperilling the capacity of the MoD to establish its own priorities and defend itself from future Treasury incursions. Tory MPs who believe in strengthening Britain's defences should be defending this policy.

MONGOLIAN RENAISSANCE

Lessons to be learnt from a triumph of democracy

Boris Yeltsin's health is again an electoral issue in Russia, a reminder of the fragile state of democracy there. The difficulty Russia is experiencing contrasts sharply with the experience of its neighbour, Mongolia, where a youthful band of democrats swept to unexpected victory in Sunday's parliamentary elections, winning two thirds of the seats in the Great Hural.

Mongolia had all Russia's excuses and more for clinging to the old guard. Poor and almost devoid of modern infrastructure, its pursuit of market reforms has been accompanied by severe hardships. In most ex-Communist countries there has been a pattern of voter rejection for reforms just when they began to yield dividends: Mongolia seemed likely to follow the trend.

The governing ex-Communist Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) was expected to win easily because it courted voters with promises to slow the pace of reforms and bring in generous social welfare programmes. The most optimistic prediction of international observers was that the Opposition — which had won only six out of 76 seats in 1992 — would gain enough ground to make multiparty politics more than a slogan. These remarkable people, with a population of only 2.3 million in an area the size of Europe, voted instead for a democratic coalition which intends to speed up economic liberalisation and introduce further political reforms.

With this result, Mongolia has triumphantly confirmed its place in the vanguard of peaceful democratic change in Asia. It is barely six years since thousands of dem-

onstrators gathered in bitter midwinter to demand reforms — beginning with the privatisation of their precious herds. Few of those protesters imagined that they would live to see their dream of a firmly democratic Mongolia answered. But revived patriotism and political reform rapidly became firmly entwined in the popular mind — a process in which the rehabilitation of Genghis Khan, the great 12th-century Mongolian conqueror, played an important part.

In 1993, as the candidate of the opposition Social Democratic Party, Punsalmaagin Ochirbat was elected President. On Sunday, in a carnival atmosphere, 87.3 per cent of voters dressed in their traditional clothes galloped miles across the steppes to the white-tented polling booths to finish the job. Older voters clung to the MPRP but the young overwhelmingly supported a coalition whose leaders, Elbegdorj and Gonchigdorj, are 33 and 42 respectively. The questions they asked of the MPRP during the campaign were why so many large enterprises remained in state hands, and what they intended to do about bureaucratic corruption. The result frees Mongolia from its uneasy cohabitation between a firmly democratic President and a Communist Government. It is now a country that will unambiguously welcome the international investment it sorely needs.

President Ochirbat has appealed to Britain, which was for many years the only Western Government to maintain an embassy in Ulan Bator, to take a lead in buttressing its recovered independence. That appeal merits full-hearted support.

MARRIAGE A LA MODE

When Shezza weds Gazza nuptial etiquette goes razzmatazz

With most of the rest of the country, we send our good wishes for married happiness to Paul and Sheryl Gascoigne (née Fables) after their wedding yesterday. Odds offered by national bookmakers on how long their arrangements will last are in poor taste. So too is the question about the curse of *Hello!*, the glossy magazine, which bought exclusive rights to photograph the happy occasion for £150,000 and is reputed to bring bad luck on the celebrities it celebrates so uncritically.

We are not even concerned here about whether the marriage contract included a clause granting exclusive photographic and easy-question rights in any subsequent divorce. We are worried much more about how one behaves if one is invited to a *Hello!* wedding as glamorous as that of yesterday. No conventions are more complex or change faster than nuptial ones. Neither Debut nor Emily Post now has all the answers.

If, for example, the bridegroom sets a fashion by wearing a gold brocade knee-length frock-coat, what should the best man wear? Should male guests show laddish solidarity by wearing designer strips and colour-coded team cravats? And what about hats? Do they have to be worn back-to-front? Who can kiss the bridesmaids? Or are they expected simply to jump up and down and hug and kiss one another?

Because the big excitement at *Hello!* is in

exclusive photographic rights, guests should expect to pass by poses of bulging, black-suited photographic consultants. How then should amateur snappers best smuggle in their personal Nikons, camcorders and mobile telephones? If a mere guest happened to be in line for the perfect warm-up picture of the happy couple, which rival publication is the most discreet in accepting the negatives — and which pays the most?

Even to get into the *Hello!* wedding, one must run the gauntlet through crowds of celebrity-hunters. The old etiquette of waving an invitation and muttering to an usher whether you sit on the side of bride or groom is no longer adequate. The serious guest must be ferried through tight security in a white stretch limousine with darkened frustrating windows.

Of course, the whole of an exclusive, secluded Jacobean-style "manor" hotel has to be hired for the occasion and guarded by private police with walkie-talkies. A celebrity chef with stars from Michelin should be engaged. Is it still considered bad form for guests to follow the example of racing drivers and spray each other with champagne or lager? Should spectators throw their customary paper missiles from the terraces or will confetti do? Answers please, with sincerest best wishes, on the back of your souvenir programme.

Cost of waste to NHS efficiency

From the Chairman of the Glan-y-Môr NHS Trust

Sir, At the 1980 annual representatives meeting of the BMA in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the then chairman of council, Tony Grabham, made an impassioned plea for a massive injection of cash to save an allegedly collapsing NHS. The cost of the NHS in 1980 was £11.95 billion.

In 1986 we have a similar speech from the present chairman, Dr Sandy Macara, using the emotive prophecies of NHS doom and seeking an additional £6 billion. The cost of the NHS is now £46 billion and rising.

If we compare UK spending on health with that of Western Europe and the US and our position in the several leagues of health indicators, it can be seen we have an efficient health service on which simply spending more would not produce major health gains.

In 1981, I opposed Tony Grabham's proposition, suggesting that the profession could not ask for more money until we used what we had more wisely, by eliminating waste, ineffective treatment, over-prescribing and over-investigation. My position remains unchanged.

Although reformed and considerably more efficient, a significant percentage of senior doctors in the major disciplines have ignored the clinical audit initiative and wasted the millions spent upon it, despite pleas from the Royal Colleges for their involvement.

The current financial year will be a desperately difficult one, for the annual cost-improvement programmes, unfunded productivity increases and partially funded pay awards have eliminated much of the "fat" within the organisation.

However, Dr Macara will only have my full support when he assures me that the clinical professions, co-operating with management, have ensured that their work is both clinically and cost effective.

Yours faithfully,
RUSSELL HOPKINS,
Chairman,
Glan-y-Môr NHS Trust,
Trinity Buildings,
21 Orchard Street, Swansea,
June 25.

Netanyahu's pledges

From Mr S. A. Mold

Sir, You say in your leading article, "Misreading Netanyahu" (June 24), that the Arab summit "was called in panic response to the ascendancy of Likud" and suggest that it made a "rush to judgment" without giving time for "the emerging pragmatism" to develop. This ignores Mr Netanyahu's repeatedly declared commitment to reversal of the agreements made for Arab-Israeli peacemaking.

He pledged construction of new settlements, seen as obstacles to Palestinian independence, and made clear that he does not intend to return the occupied Golan Heights or Arab east Jerusalem (report, June 17), and his new right-wing Government made "proposals for watering down the commitment to withdraw from Hebron" (report, June 22).

His willingness, as you noted, "to talk without preconditions" is itself an unacceptable precondition that previous agreements made by Mr Shimon Peres on the basis of "Land for Peace" be ignored.

Yours sincerely,
S. A. MOLD
(Director General),
International Centre
for Islamic Studies,
ICIS House,
144-146 King's Cross Road, WCL,
June 25.

MPs' pay rise

From Mr Granville Davies

Sir, It contravenes all good industrial relations practice that MPs should be allowed to vote in their own pay rise (report, June 28) and goes against all precedents for less privileged employment groups.

They should, like others, be subject to control by some higher authority, perhaps the House of Lords, who would then rule against their award in the light of public interest, permitting MPs then to do the usual thing and go on strike to defend their interests.

Peace and prosperity would then be ensured for the rest of us.

Yours sincerely,
GRANVILLE DAVIES,
5 Warren Wood, Warren Road,
Crowborough, East Sussex,
June 28.

Tower environs

From Mr Christopher Rouse

Sir, I have been involved in building four and five-star hotels on three continents. In no case have fees for feasibility studies exceeded £30,000.

Could someone please explain where the £500,000 being contributed by the National Lottery to the costs of studying the Tower of London environs and the flooding of its moat (leading article, June 25) is being spent? It must be a very large plug-hole.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ROUSE,
Flat One,
9 Coleherne Road, SW10,
June 25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Complaints about solicitors and protection of the public

From the Director of the Solicitors Complaints Bureau

Sir, Once again, the solicitors' profession and its regulatory body are the focus of criticism (report, June 13; letters, June 19 and 25) and the unparalleled service they offer clients is overlooked.

Yet it is solicitors who fund the Solicitors Complaints Bureau to ensure that complaints about themselves and their colleagues are investigated at no charge to the client. They also fund the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal. Both organisations recognise the importance of lay representation in the decision-making process, and both have an established policy of involving lay members in their procedures, to act as the voice of the public. The Bureau's replacement body — the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors — will build on this policy.

In addition, the profession's regulator is overseen by the Legal Services Ombudsman — an independent observer dedicated to redressing any imbalance in the system in favour of solicitors. Solicitors pay significant amounts each year into the compensation fund to safeguard clients and replace moneys stolen by the tiny minority of dishonest colleagues. The Law Society offers the public a free review of their solicitors' charges.

The list goes on. The profession, instead of knocking these procedures, should be proud of them.

Yours faithfully,
PETER ROSS, Director,
Solicitors Complaints Bureau,
Victoria Court, 8 Dornier Place,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire,
June 25.

From Dr Paul Edwards

Sir, It was encouraging to read of a solicitor (Mr Gavin Stewart, letter, June 25) advocating the abolition of the Solicitors Complaints Bureau. Complaints against solicitors have steadily risen over the past 16 years, reaching some 20,000 a year, and substantially evidenced independent reports have consistently identified the inadequacy of self-regulation of solicitors.

However, Mr Stewart's alternative remedies must be regarded as being as illusory as the SCB. Solicitors are reluctant, almost to the point of prohibition, to act against other solicitors, which effectively deters clients from initiating legal action, whether in the courts or with the disciplinary tribunal; and the Legal Services Ombudsman has no powers with which to enforce any ruling he makes against the over-subscribed incarnations of Messrs Sue, Grabbit and Runne.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL EDWARDS,
248 Toller Lane,
Bradford, West Yorkshire,
June 25.

From Mr Colin Peters

Sir, Mr Gavin Stewart claims that if he cheats he can be prosecuted and sued, and if he is negligent, again he can be sued. He says that "loss made through my dishonesty will be made good by my fellow solicitors". All of this would be true if we lived in a perfect world.

Unfortunately we do not, which is why an independent regulatory body is so badly needed to protect the public

from those solicitors whose wrongful actions, if their true extent were known, would bring the whole of the profession into disrepute.

Is it possible that around 20,000 complaints a year to the Solicitors Complaints Bureau are without justification and completely unfounded?

Yours faithfully,
COLIN PETERS
(Northern Co-ordinator,
Litigator in Person Society),
20 Halesworth Crescent, Holmewood,
Bradford, West Yorkshire,
June 25.

From Mr Michael Champion

Sir, It is not surprising that Mr Stewart, a solicitor, wishes the Solicitors Complaints Bureau to be abolished without replacement. In a match between Gentlemen and Players, everyone knows that the professionals always win, unless put under a proper handicap.

Most solicitors strongly advise their clients against litigation, unless they have a very deep pocket, or are receiving legal aid. Mr Stewart's advice to dissatisfied clients to sue their solicitors will be met with wry amusement by those who have tried it.

Until the legal profession recognises that its forlorn reputation can never be recovered without the introduction of impartial, non-legal means of redress against malpractice, even a toothless body like the SCB is better than nothing.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
MICHAEL CHAMPION,
102 Milton Park, Highgate, N6,
June 25.

Saving Becket's casket for the nation

From the Director of the National Art Collections Fund

Sir, As director of this long-established art charity which is dedicated to "saving art for the nation", I feel I must address Simon Jenkins' remarks about "loft chauvinism" ("Great art knows no borders", June 25; see also leading articles, June 28, July 1; letters, June 20, 26, 29).

Simon Jenkins believes that the Becket casket is "not a national treasure" and misleadingly suggests that those of us who are trying to save it are doing so in order to prevent "a humiliation to British pride".

Our fund is committed to saving Becket's casket because, properly displayed, it will mean far more to a British audience than it ever could to any foreign one. Not only is it a wonderfully evocative object, but it is also an immensely potent work of art and a piece of living history — our history which, let us recall, is an amalgam of the French and Anglo-Saxon. The casket is not unique, but it is the earliest and

largest example of its kind, marvelously preserved and beautifully crafted.

If the V&A succeeds in purchasing it, then the casket will certainly attract visitors from up and down the country. These will not be the "patriotic hordes" envisaged by Simon Jenkins, but people who come to be moved and inspired by its beauty, history and power.

To speak of idolatry, hyperbole or otherwise, is to miss the point. The casket was made to enshrine an ideal, not just some relics which may or may not have been genuine — an ideal of spiritual devotion which matters as much today as it did 800 years ago. Our "heritage", if it means anything, surely embraces more than the Crown Jewels or Churchill's hat.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BARRIE, Director,
National Art Collections Fund,
Millais House,
7 Cromwell Place, SW7,
July 1.

Dawn of time

From the Acting Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kiribati

Sir, Readers of Norris McWhirter's article, "The dawn of a new age" (June 24; see also letter, June 27), will have gained the impression that the Government of Kiribati had changed the International Date Line in an opportunistic attempt to cash in on the millennium.

Caroline Island is the easternmost of eight islands which form the Line Islands group. Under the previous date line, both that group and the Phoenix Islands group were in a time zone a full day ahead of the Gilbert Islands group and Banaba, which are the remaining parts of the country. It is true, as Mr McWhirter states, that Caroline Island is not permanently inhabited; but other of the Line Islands (including Christmas Island) have resident populations and are important contributors to the national economy.

I doubt that the views of the inhabitants of what is now the state of Kiribati were foremost in the minds of those involved in the 1984 International Meridian Conference, or even — since Britain did not formally declare the islands to be a protectorate until 1992 and a colony in 1916 — that the 1884 conference was quite sure what bits of the territory (which achieved its independence in 1979) belonged to whom.

Whoever has the right claim to the

millennium dawn, I think you must accept, Sir, that it is a nonsense that one part of a nation is located in a different day from the rest; and that the action of President Tito's Government in remedying the nonsense is long overdue.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WALSH,
Acting Honorary Consul,
Republic of Kiribati,
The Great House,
Llanddewi
Rhydderch, Monmouthshire,
June 24.

Counting the years

From Professor R. A. Weale

Sir, Sir David Blunt's quest (letter, June 27) for a new word for 1,000 years rests on the assumption that the current millennium started in 1001. But if, as is likely, forty or so generations ago, people were as innumerate as we are today, it must have started a year too soon, and no new word for millennium is required.

The problem seems to go back to the Romans, who had no symbol for zero. The fact that the next millennium also starts a year too soon is just one more triumph of a basically anti-decimal culture.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT WEALE,
5 Windmill Hill, Hampstead, NW3,
June 28.

Broadcasting Bill

From the Acting Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, We agree with the Campaign for Quality Television (letter, June 27) that the Government should ensure that quality is taken into account by the Independent Television Commission when it is awarding licences for the new digital television services.

The true measure of a successful broadcasting industry rests with the opinions and experiences of viewers and listeners. Undoubtedly, quality is a critical issue for both, but we have additional concerns: access to the new services, picture quality, the future of public service broadcasting, the effects of pay-to-view television on "free-to-air" services, the timing of the current analogue system switch-off, the future of the BBC licence, and much more.

This council believes that there is an urgent need for an independent body to research and promote viewers' and

Morality and faith

From the Reverend A. G. Fitzpatrick

Sir, I and my congregation much appreciate Nigel Lawson's article (June 26; see also letters, June 29) and indeed the excellent "What we believe" series (June 24-26). As Unitarians with a wide spectrum of beliefs, but having in common the opportunity to come together to deepen our spiritual awareness, we would admit that amongst us are a number of atheists.

Ms Lawson is correct in saying that "Religion gives rules". For the Unitarian such rules require a great "sense of morality... within oneself". The "afterlife" is of little import to most of us, but the way we live our lives is of supreme import. Our faith is historically founded in Christianity but has grown and developed.

Christianity is demonstrably too narrow and hidebound by creeds and dogmas written nearly 2,000 years ago. Unitarians believe their faith is for the 21st century.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTAIR FITZPATRICK
(Unitarian Minister),
Edmund Hall Unitarian Church,
Belle Vue Road,
Southampton, Hampshire,
June 26.

From Mr Andrew McWhirter

Sir, Nigel Lawson writes: "One is constantly being told how offensive is a lack of faith to believers".

Frankly, I find this statement hard to believe but, as a Christian, I do find offensive the criticism of my faith by atheists. In nine out of ten instances the shortcomings of the organisation (eg, the Church) are wrongly laid at the door of the faith itself.

Nigel Lawson seems to be equating humanism with atheism. Humanism, whilst atheistic (or agnostic), is a creed: it advocates a system of morality and a basis for that system. Atheism, by itself, advocates nothing and is, therefore, "nihilistic".

My faith is my faith. I deserve to be criticised not for following it, but for failing to follow it. This applies equally to the adherents of all moral faiths.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MCWHIRTER,
17 Ash Road, Booker,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire,
June 26.

From Mr M. E. H. Robinson

Sir, I was horrified to read Jostein Gaarder (*The three great guides*), June 24. It is sad to read that he is a member of the Lutheran State Church of Norway and yet he does not seem certain whether or not he will go to Heaven. What is more worrying is that he reveals that he would like to meet Jesus alongside Socrates and Buddha, as if there is any comparison.

He asserts that Jesus is "the most important moral philosopher of all" but is not sure whether he is the son of God. This opinion is not open to us: either Jesus was who he said he was — the son of God — or he was a liar, in which case he cannot be "the most important moral philosopher of all".

Yours faithfully,
MIKE ROBINSON,
Barn Close,
Beetham, Milnthorpe, Cumbria,
June 24.

Risk assessment

From Mr Tom Baldwin

Sir, Yesterday I saw a man standing bare-headed in the midday sunshine while using a mobile phone and smoking a cigarette. Would anyone care to estimate his life expectancy?

Yours,
TOM BALDWIN,
32 Elmsmere Drive,
South Croydon, Surrey,
June 25.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

Alfred Marks, OBE, comedian, actor and singer, died yesterday aged 75. He was born on January 28, 1921.

ALFRED MARKS was one of those outstanding comedians able to sustain a wide-ranging career in the chilly climate of post-war variety showbusiness. There was nothing, he remarked, that he had not done in the profession except ballet ("and who knows").

Marks had an uncompromisingly burly stage presence. His booming voice, hooded gaze and inky black eyebrows, which shuttled up and down his forehead like a pair of tiny cutlasses, could invoke unease among his audience as well as laughter. In pantomime he played legions of moustache-twirling villains, and, on television, more intimidating gangster-types.

On stage he did not consider himself to be the sort of comedian who can seize an audience's sympathy in the first minute. Contemporaries such as Tony Hancock or Frankie Howerd were funny just by being themselves, but Marks had a harder edge to his stage persona. He was the tyrannical Punch figure, "the whipper rather than the whipped", as one critic wrote. He fired off his jokes with the power of a cannon. There were no gimmicks, no funny hats, lopsided walks or matry catchphrases. He relied on impeccable timing and bombast.

His television work included *Alfred Marks Time*, which ran for several years in the late 1950s. And his powerful delivery was particularly effective on radio. He had been a listener's favourite ever since his initial broadcast on *Variety Bandbox* in 1944, where many comics of his generation were "blooded".

Alfred Edward Marks was born in Holborn, London, the son of two Polish Jewish milliners. His original surname was *Tuchinsky*, which he changed by deed poll after the war. He grew up in the tenements of Aldgate in the East End and attended the Jewish Free School, where he became head boy.

He left school to sell jewellery from a stall in Petticoat Lane, and was swiftly promoted, because of his

persuasive ability to raise a crowd, to market auctioneer. But he was then fired for making too many jokes and not enough sales. At the same time, he was being drawn to showbusiness. Max Miller was appearing at the Holborn Empire and, on Saturdays, Marks would queue for hours to watch him.

He made his first professional appearance at the age of 16. He persuaded a reluctant theatrical agent to let him try out an act in the Blue Hall, Islington, a cinema which staged variety shows on Friday nights. Marks made sure to collect his fee of 15 shillings in advance, wisely as it turned out. He had hardly opened his mouth when the audience began to make unmistakably ominous grumbling noises. Fortunately the Blue Hall was one of the few theatres still equipped with a steel net curtain for the protection of youthful performers.

In 1939 Marks joined the RAF and trained as a machine tool operator. He spent the next four years in the Middle East. Promoted to flight sergeant, he organised concerts for servicemen in remote areas beyond the reach of ENSA.

Marks had a fine baritone voice, and he saw his chance in Italy when servicemen were being invited to prepare themselves for civilian life by learning a trade. Somehow he contrived to twist this ruling, and have his voice trained by the best teachers at the Milan Conservatoire. The formal training suited him in good stead with his later work in musicals, though he realised he would have never made it in opera. Demobilised and with a £75 gratuity, Marks began the daunting daily rounds of variety agents.

He was down in his last few pounds when his friend Frank Muir arranged an audition for him at the Windmill Theatre (Stephen Ward was then resident osteopath). Comedians at the club were looked upon as necessary evils, there to keep the hounds at bay, while the stage was prepared for the next garish tableau and the troupe of naked girls. It was an exhausting learning school for Marks, but the expert heckling hardened and injured him: "If you could make those bastards laugh you

ALFRED MARKS



could make anybody laugh." It was the Windmill, where he stayed for 20 months, which really established him in the business.

By 1950 Marks was appearing in Manchester in *High Button Shoes*, and doing radio on the side. He surprised his peers by turning down West End offers to go into *Montmartre*, a Brighton summer show. The decision proved, though, lucky for him. In the company was Paddy O'Neil, an ex-hostess of the wartime show *Navy Mixture*. They were married at the West London Synagogue on September 3, 1952.

Marks continued his steady ascent during the 1950s. His work in broadcasting and success in a Cole Porter musical, *Can-Can*, at the Coliseum in 1954 led to an offer, by the end of that decade, of a television show, *Alfred Marks Time*. This was one of the first half-hour comedy sketch shows.

With serious drama, the turning point came in 1962. Lindsay Anderson saw him playing a Soho nightclub owner in a film, *Frightened City*. He recognised a quality in Marks which he needed for the very different character in Max Frisch's play *The Fire Raisers*, which he was directing at the Royal Court. Marks rose to the occasion, and, as his friend Jimmy Jewel was to do after his success in *The Comedians*, trod a rewarding path between serious drama and comedy thereafter.

Bill Naughton's comedy *Spring and Port Wine* was a highlight for Marks during the 1960s. The play ran for two and a half years in the West End and toured Australia. He was back in farce in *Don't Just Lie There, Say Something* (1971) at the Garrick, and then switched to a very different sort of comedy as Sir Toby Belch at the Bankside Globe in 1973. He was excellent in Shake-

peare, with a clear speaking voice, and an intelligent approach to bringing out the humour of obscure puns. Other high points during the 1970s included his role as Creon in *Oedipus Tyrannus* at the Chichester Festival in 1974. The following year he teamed up with Jimmy Jewel for *The Sunshine Boys* at the Piccadilly.

Marks never stopped working. Tours and West End appearances followed one another in relentless sequence. *Bus Stop* was a hit at the Phoenix in the early 1980s, and Marks was singing again shortly afterwards at the Coliseum in ENO's production of *The Mikado*.

Recently, there was a tour of *The Cherry Orchard* with Susannah York. But then, earlier this year, cancer was diagnosed and he had to withdraw from his last role, playing Felicity Kendal's father, in the London tour of *Mind the Gap*.

Marks's films included *Scream and Scream Again*, a vintage horror, and *There was a Crooked Man* with Norman Wisdom. His starring role in the 1959 comedy *Desert Mice* was a particularly apt piece of casting: it concerned a concert party sent to entertain the troops in North Africa during the Second World War. As for later television, Marks co-starred with Zena Walker in the situation comedy *Albert and Victoria*, and compered *Sunday Night at the London Palladium*.

Marks did his share for worthy causes: entertaining in prisons and at fundraising concerts for the National Playing Fields Association. He was appointed OBE in 1976.

Marks was not at all intimidating or pretentious in private life. He enjoyed entertaining at his home in Hertfordshire, which he bought from Peter Sellers, and where he installed a 20-seat cinema.

He was — as far as any ambitious, talented man is able to be — satisfied with his achievements. But he was never complacent, and that barbed sense of humour remained as sharp as ever, particularly when he was contemplating his own shortcomings. His favourite critical notice was a cryptic one: "Alfred Marks is a comedian who should sing more."

He survived by his wife, his actor son, Gareth, and a daughter.

MICHAEL WISHART

Michael Wishart, artist and writer, died on June 28 aged 68. He was born on June 12, 1928.



SOME people lead lives at a high pitch of mental and physical extremes. Michael Wishart was such a man. He survived numerous crises, was victim to many emotional setbacks and was self-destructive to an alarming degree. His life he described as "many years of terror and beauty, so many seasons of sadness and amazement".

He was a highly talented artist, a man of subtle and subversive humour, well-read and sensitive to art and letters. He was at times shy to the point that he trembled, and at others was wild and alarming in behaviour. As an artist, he was original and veered from the extraordinarily to the occasionally mundane. He had a small but loyal following and took pride that his paintings held a particular appeal for writers.

Wishart's ancestry (which interested him intensely) was one of contradictions. His millionaire father, Ernest Wishart, was the son of Colonel Sir Sidney Wishart, who served as Sheriff of the City of London, 1921-22. Ernest founded a publishing house called Wishart & Co which published Nancy Cunard's *Negro*, Geoffrey Gorer's *The Revolution and the Modern Mind*, and a literary monthly, *The Calendar of Modern Letters*. Later he took over Martin Lawrence and the firm became the only Marxist-Leninist publishers operating in London, under the name Lawrence & Wishart.

Wishart's mother Lorna was the daughter of Walter Garmar of Oakeswell Hall, Westbury, a wealthy but sadistic doctor, who beat his sons and daughters, and his Irish wife, Lorna. She had two brothers and seven dramatic sisters. These included Kathleen, the mistress and later wife of Sir Jacob Epstein, and Mary, the wife of the poet Roy Campbell and a girlfriend of Vita Sackville-West. Michael Wishart used to cite two more — "one a lesbian with a moustache, the image of George Sand, who with or without the lash managed to seduce her idol T. E. Lawrence once only, afterwards retiring to a Beverly Hills cottage with a lady named Philip de Winton".

Wishart was a lonely child, though seldom left alone. In the early days of the Second World War he was sent to the local council school, where a cruel teacher beat his knuckles till they bled, and then to Bedales, where he spent his early days, partly to disguise his uncertain sexual orientation, he took pleasure from a reputation as a seducer, engaging the favours of a young refugee girl from London in exchange for the occasional bar of chocolate. After Bedales he enrolled at the Central School of Arts and Crafts. Dispirited by this, he went to live with his uncle, Roy Campbell.

He next moved to Paris, where an early colleague was Lucian Freud. He relished all that that city could offer him in the study of art, *lounge* night life and excessive alcohol. He took a walk-on part in Roland Petit's ballet, *Les Femmes*, assisted Cocteau in the last-minute touches to some cinema decor, and had the misfortune to suffer an intense obsession with the sinister opium addict Denham Fouts: Wishart himself became an opium addict, from which mercifully (and unlike Fouts) he was cured (Years later he visited Fouts's grave in Rome, muttering: "What had become of the scorpion tattooed in his groin that I had kissed so many times?")

Wishart enjoyed precocious success at an exhibition at the Archer Gallery in 1944 at the age of 16. He then studied at the Académie Julian in Paris,

and went on to enjoy three one-man exhibitions at the Redfern Gallery between 1956 and 1960 and four at the Leicester. David Bailey photographed the paintings for the catalogue, and some were bought by the Arts Council and the *Financial Times*.

His work sought to evoke mood, employing sensitive strokes of the brush to express a deliberate poetic quality and fragility. One critic wrote that his flower pictures "looked as if a butterfly with its wings dipped in paint had been allowed to flutter aimlessly across the canvas".

Wishart was based in New York from 1962 to 1964, when he returned to London. He travelled extensively through Europe and Morocco between 1969 and 1972. He painted portraits, Moorish scenes, land and sea. He loved skies rich with swirling clouds, or the night sky; hot-coloured birds, irises, death banners, skulls and other symbols.

In 1977 he published an outspoken book of memoirs, *High Drive*. Like his paintings it is rich in sinister undertones and highly amusing.

Wishart knew most of the artists and writers of his day, everyone from Cocteau, Barbra Streisand, Cyril Connolly, Graham Sutherland (his godfather as a Roman Catholic) and Lucian Freud. He relished being a slightly older but well accepted part of what he called "the Peacock Revolution", the world of the Rolling Stones and Anita Pallenberg. His friends enjoyed and sometimes endured his long dissertations, and a visit from him could, indeed, be without end.

In 1950 he married Anne Dunn, the daughter of the millionaire banker Sir James Dunn. They had a son, before divorcing in 1960. She later married the portrait painter Rodrigo Moynihan. The divorce left Wishart in a state of collapse and several nervous breakdowns punctuated his later years: "Upon the foundations of my ruined vanity, using drink for bricks and drugs for mortar, I constructed purely for myself a defensive pyramid of pride."

Thereafter he veered in his affections between men and women, frequenting the ballet a great deal at one period. Likewise there were times when he shaved his head, adopting the look of "a bald Eastern mystic or criminal type", times when he was drunk and times when he was sober. He was as much at home at a dinner of the Royal Society as the Chelsea Arts Club.

The punishment he meted out on himself took its toll in due course. Wishart painted nothing for 11 years until he exhibited at the Parkin Gallery in the summer of 1985. Thereafter he frequently assured his friends that works of considerable genius were about to appear from him, indeed his "finest work yet"; but, sadly, these never materialised, though he mustered a handful of powerful paintings for exhibition at the same gallery in the early months of this year. In a more subdued moment of modesty he wrote: "Call me a dedicated dauber who holds his top hat upside-down and is sometimes surprised to see a rabbit fall out of it."

Wishart is survived by his son Francis, also a painter.

THE RIGHT REV ROSS HOOK

The Right Rev Ross Hook, MC, Bishop of Bradford, 1972-80, and Chief of Staff to the Archbishop of Canterbury, 1980-84, died on June 26 aged 79. He was born on February 19, 1917.

AS THE first holder of an office, which later came to be known as that of "Bishop at Lambeth", Ross Hook ensured his niche in the organisational history of the Church of England. Before Robert Runcie recruited him to take charge of the more bureaucratic side of his job, previous archbishops had relied simply on a senior chaplain to cope with general administration.

Conscious, however, of the burdens that fall on the shoulders of a modern archbishop, Dr Runcie resolved to break with tradition. When it was suggested to him, as his second choice, that the then Bishop of Bradford might welcome the appointment, he readily invited him to join him as chief of staff. The fact that since then a former bishop has always been appointed to hold this position is sufficient evidence of the success of the experiment.

Although not a born organiser — his successor, Bishop Ronald Gordon, was probably more effective at keeping the talented but sometimes highly idiosyncratic Lambeth staff in order — Hook possessed many of the

other qualities needed for a post which was essentially that of a backroom boy. He was extremely good at getting on with people, possessing a genial, amiable personality which the laity especially found reassuring.

He rendered invaluable service as Lambeth's personal link with the Church Commissioners across the river at No 1 Millbank; and his long pastoral experience also came in useful with the work of such bodies as the then Advisory Council for the Church's Ministry. Although himself two years older than the archbishop, there were no tensions in their relationship and, when he retired at the relatively early age of 67, there was widespread sorrow at Lambeth Palace.

Ross Sydney Hook came from no grand background and was educated at Christ's Hospital and at Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he took a second in Part I of the History Tripos and a third in Part I of the Theological Tripos. He proceeded to Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and was ordained deacon in 1941 and priest in 1942, holding his only curacy at Milton in Hampshire. In 1943 he volunteered as a naval chaplain, serving with the Royal Marine Commandos and winning the MC in Italy in 1945.

In 1946 he returned to Cambridge as chaplain of Ridley Hall, before going north in 1948 as rector of Chorlton-cum-Hardy in the Manchester diocese. From there, no doubt partly on the strength of his war record, he was presented to the important parish of Chelsea in west London by Earl Cadogan. In those days this represented one of the C of E's plum livings, with a salary well ahead of that of most diocesan bishops and a rectory and 2½-acre garden rivaling in grandeur Lambeth Palace itself.

He leaves his widow Ruth, always an integral partner in his ministry, and a son and a daughter.

These were in many ways Hook's happiest years: he enjoyed cordial relations with the Cadogan family, who own vast tracts of this area of London, became rural dean in the same year as his appointment, while also latterly serving as chaplain to the Chelsea Hospital for Women. He proved a most effective trainer of curates and it was no surprise when in 1961 the newly appointed Bishop of Rochester, David Sack, plucked him from the parochial ministry to become a canon residentiary of Rochester Cathedral with special responsibility for the training of curates in his diocese. Hook stayed there a mere four years before being selected by another diocesan, Kenneth Riches of Lincoln, to become one of his suffragans as Bishop of Grantham in 1965.

In 1972 he was translated to Bradford, then as now one of the toughest dioceses in the Church of England. His bluff, pipe-smoking approach fitted in very well with the no-nonsense mentality of West Riding folk and he rejoiced in the scenery of the Yorkshire Dales. But for his wife's ill-health he might well have decided to serve out his time there but, as it was, when the invitation came in 1980 to join Robert Runcie at Lambeth, he was happy to accept.

Nevertheless, the last four years of his active ministry were slightly anticlimactic, and it is an open question how much he enjoyed his period at Lambeth. His retirement was clouded by his own ill-health — he suffered a stroke some ten years ago and, though he retained his lifelong interest in cricket (and particularly in the Kent County Cricket Club), his other activities were necessarily circumscribed.

He leaves his widow Ruth, always an integral partner in his ministry, and a son and a daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Insolvency Rules 1986, which apply to the winding up of companies, are now in force. The Rules are available from the Stationery Office, 100 Brook Street, London W1A 1AA, or from any of the following agents: The Stationery Office, 100 Brook Street, London W1A 1AA; The Stationery Office, 100 Brook Street, London W1A 1AA; The Stationery Office, 100 Brook Street, London W1A 1AA.

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE ESTATE OF MARGARET CLARE, late of 10, St. James's Place, London, W1A 1AA, deceased. Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Margaret Clare, who died on the 10th day of June 1996, is being administered by the undersigned, who is a solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales, and is authorised to accept and pay all claims and debts due to and by the estate of the late Margaret Clare, and to distribute the assets of the estate to the persons entitled to them.

RENTALS

BARBERS state professional services. 21/05/96. 0171 638 5021.
CHURCHES state professional services. 21/05/96. 0171 638 5021.
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TICKETS FOR SALE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PLEASE SUPPORT ANIMALS IN NEED

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Good Health

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RESEARCH INTO AGING

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THE ALBERT MEMORIAL

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Difference between 'cause' and 'event'

Axa Reinsurance (UK) plc v Field

Before Lord MacKay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches June 13] The expressions "originating cause" and "originating event", as used in errors and omissions reinsurance policies by Lloyd's underwriters, did not mean the same thing because, in ordinary language, "cause" could be a continuing state of affairs and could be the absence of something happening whereas an "event" was something which happened at a particular time, at a particular place and in a particular way. Accordingly, the construction given by the court to "originating cause" could not govern the meaning of "originating event".

The House of Lords so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Axa Reinsurance (UK) plc, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Staughton and Lord Justice Simon Brown) (The Times October 10, 1995; [1995] 1 Lloyd's Rep 26), which dismissed Axa's appeal from a decision dated July 22, 1995 of Mr Justice Phillips on a preliminary issue, ordered by him to be tried, following an originating summons issued by Axa against the defendant, Mr Roger Field, acting on his own behalf and as representative of all other members of Lloyd's Syndicate No 204 of 1991.

The judge had held that the reasoning in his judgment in *Cox v Bankside Members Agency Ltd* (The Times January 27, 1995; [1995] CLC 180) was directly applicable to the case of loss of policy in the instant case and that three losses,

no more and no less, were to be aggregated.

Mr Christopher Clarke, QC and Mr Mark Howard for Axa; Mr Jonathan Hirst, QC and Mr Michael Swainson for Mr Field.

LORD MUSTILL said that the origin of the instant appeal lay in the involvement of numerous members of syndicates at Lloyd's in what was known as "the LMX spiral".

The spiral was the pathological outcome of writing whole account excess of loss in a narrow market, the essence being that the same loss might in certain events circulate through a chain of chains of reinsurance, repeatedly impacting on and ultimately exhausting successive layers of cover, leaving the reinsured without the intended protection or none at all.

Complaining that those who managed their syndicates had failed either to recognise the risks of the spiral, or to take proper precautions against its adverse effects, numerous members who suffered heavy losses brought proceedings against the managers for negligence and breach of contract.

These proceedings were the origin, but not the subject, of the present appeal which was concerned with the aggregation of losses for the purpose of reinsurance policies some distance away from the policies out of which the losses originally arose.

The root case was *Deeny v Gooda Walker Ltd* (The Times October 7, 1994; [1994] CLC 1124), in which members of syndicates recovered damages against certain members' agents. One of the agents was Bankside Members Agency Ltd which brought proceedings under an errors and omissions policy underwritten by,

among others, Lloyd's Syndicate 204.

An issue in that case, which was resolved in *Cox v Bankside Members Agency Ltd* was how, in the light of the various acts and omissions which founded the liability of the members' agents in *Deeny v Gooda Walker Ltd* losses should be aggregated for the purpose of a provision limiting the insurers' total liability.

Syndicate 204 was now looking for a recovery under an excess of loss treaty issued by, among others, Axa providing one layer of cover in respect of the whole of the syndicate's casualty account. Once again the question of aggregation arose.

Axa issued an originating summons inviting the determination by the court of three questions, two of which were:

"2 Out of which events do the losses of the underwriter (incurred by reason of his liability to the Gooda Walker Assureds) arise for the purposes of the XL reinsurance policy?"

"3 Out of how many such events do those losses arise for the purposes of the XL reinsurance policy?"

The XL reinsurance policy was defined for this purpose as meaning the policy issued by Axa covering the liability of Mr Field in respect of his underlying direct and indirect losses and omissions insurance of the Gooda Walker companies.

In the body of the errors and omissions policy there was a provision for automatic reinstatement but subject to a proviso that the total liability of the insurers in respect of all claims made during the period of the policy should not exceed certain specified sums.

The reinstatement clause also contained a second proviso to the effect that "the insurers' total

liability under this policy in respect of any claim or claims arising from one originating cause shall in no event exceed the sum stated..."

The sum stated was subject to a limit for each and every loss which was defined as "... each and every loss and/or occurrence and/or disaster and/or calamity arising out of one event..."

With commendable speed the matter was brought before the judge only two days later. At that point the issues were radically reformulated by an order of Mr Phillips to the effect that there should be tried as a preliminary issue the question:

"Whether, having regard to the loss settlement provisions in the XL reinsurance policy the answer to questions 2 and 3 in the originating summons is determined by *Cox v Bankside Members Agency Ltd*."

The clause construed there read, inter alia: "the insurers' total liability under this policy in respect of any claim or claims arising from one originating cause, or series of events or occurrences attributable to one originating cause or related causes shall in no event exceed the sum stated..."

The question in suit, as framed, turned simply on a comparison between the clauses. The contrast was between "originating cause" coupled with "cause" in *Cox v Bankside Members Agency Ltd* and "event" in the present case. Those expressions were not at all the same for two reasons.

In ordinary speech, an event was something which happened at a particular time, at a particular place, in a particular way.

A cause was something al-

together less constricted. It could be a continuing state of affairs; it could be the absence of something happening.

Equally, the word "originating" was consciously chosen to open up the widest possible search for a unifying factor in the history of the losses which it was sought to aggregate.

Even if Axa and the other reinsurers were aware of the terms on which the direct business was being written there was nothing surprising in a decision to choose a narrower basis of aggregation for the commercial considerations which determined how the cover of a whole "casualty" account would be framed and rated were not the same as those which shaped the individual items comprising that account.

If the syndicate had wished to secure identical measures of loss for its inward and outward contracts it could have negotiated with the reinsurers to that end, and taken the obvious course of using the same words in each.

They chose not to do so, and thereby accepted the possibility that although in some combinations of facts the outcomes might be the same, in others they might not.

Thus although naturally hesitating to differ from the unanimous opinion of the courts below, his Lordship would allow the appeal. In answer to the question raised by the reformulated preliminary issue and remit the matter to the High Court so that the proceedings might be continued.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Goff, Lord Slynn and Lord Hoffmann agreed.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Clyde & Co, Guildford.

Part-timers' claims over pension rights

Fletcher v Midland Bank plc

Before Mr Justice Mummery, Mrs M. E. Sutherland and Mr G. Wright

[Judgment June 24] In test cases involving the rights of part-time workers employed by public and private sector employers to participate in occupational pension schemes with a qualifying scheme of membership based on a minimum number of hours worked each week, the Employment Appeal Tribunal held on preliminary issues that the claims were only in time if commenced within six months of the end of the contract of employment containing the equality clause allegedly breached and that no claim could be made for a declaration of a right to membership of a pension scheme in respect of a period earlier than two years prior to the institution of the claim.

The applicants had argued that the denial of access to part-time workers was in the matter of pay and was therefore contrary to the Equal Pay Act 1970 and EC law.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when dismissing appeals by Mrs D. Fletcher and 21 other applicants from a decision of an industrial tribunal chairman in Birmingham last December who had dismissed claims against Midland Bank plc and others. The claims were selected as test cases out of a large number affecting 60,000 or more applications to determine preliminary points of general application.

Section 1 of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as substituted by section 8(1) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, provides: "(1) If the terms of a contract under which a woman is employed at an establishment in Great Britain do not include... an equality clause they shall be deemed to include one."

Section 2 provides: "(1) Any claim in respect of the contravention of a term modified or included by virtue of an equality clause, including a claim for arrears of remuneration or damages in respect of the contravention may be presented by way of a complaint to an industrial tribunal..."

Where it appears to the secretary of state that there may be a question whether the employer of any woman is or has been contravening a term modified or included by virtue of the equality clause but that it is not reasonable to expect her to take steps to have the question determined, the question may be referred by him as respects all or any of them to an industrial tribunal and shall be dealt with as if the reference were of a claim by the woman or woman against the employer...

"(4) No claim in respect of the operation of an equality clause relating to a woman's employment shall be referred to an industrial tribunal... if she has not been employed in the employment within six months preceding the date of the reference."

"(5) A woman shall not be entitled... to be awarded any payment by way of arrears of remuneration or damages in respect of the contravention of a term modified or included by virtue of an equality clause but that it is not reasonable to expect her to take steps to have the question determined, the question may be referred by him as respects all or any of them to an industrial tribunal and shall be dealt with as if the reference were of a claim by the woman or woman against the employer..."

Those dealing with the client companies were entitled to expect that the directors would exercise the competence required by the 1985 Act in relation to the affairs of the companies.

The competence required by the 1985 Act at least required that a director who was a corporate financier should be prepared to read and understand the statutory accounts of the company of which he was a director.

It was argued for Mr Burt that incompetence was not the charge he was brought to court to meet. The charge was causing or allowing the loans to be made.

His Lordship said that a director who failed to appreciate the obvious "allowing", and that gross incompetence in that context was "allowing". It was also clear from the affidavits that the secretary of state did allege negligence.

Anyone against whom proceedings were brought under section 6 of the 1985 Act knew what the case was that he had to meet. His Lordship deplored any tendency to introduce into that jurisdiction the rigidity of the criminal jurisdiction. That would be wholly contrary to the spirit of the 1985 Act.

Mr Burrows was the author and instigator of the transfers to Yorkdale and he was disqualified for nine years.

Judge Paul Baker, QC, who had heard the proceedings against Mr Davis, disqualified him for four years.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Izod Evans.

Regina v Bernard

Before Lord Justice Rose, Mr Justice Mantell and Mr Justice Thomas

[Judgment May 24]

The relevance of a defendant's medical condition to his sentence was considered by the Court of Appeal, which set out the principles which emerged from earlier decisions of the court.

Their Lordships gave reasons for allowing, on May 20, an appeal by Basil Mortimer Bernard and reducing to 3½ years a sentence of 5 years imprisonment imposed on November 3, 1995 by Judge Nicholl at Birmingham Crown Court on the appellant's conviction of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on the importation of a class B drug, 27.7kg of cannabis.

Mr Michael Birnbaum, QC, who did not appear before the court, said that the appellant was a man aged 63 of previous good character who suffered from three principal medical ailments: a narrowing of the oesophagus causing difficulty in swallowing, diabetes and hypertension.

The part of the submission which relied on the appellant's medical condition raised difficulties, having regard to a number

of a time earlier than two years before the date on which the proceedings were instituted.

Under article 119 of the EC Treaty "Each member state shall ensure and subsequently maintain the application of the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work."

Miss Jane McNeill for Mrs Fletcher; Mr Patrick Elias, QC, Mr Jason Coppel and Miss Melanie Tether for the bank.

MR JUSTICE MUMMERY said that taking an example of an individual claim, Mrs Fletcher had presented her originating application to an industrial tribunal on December 16, 1994. She was employed by the bank from October 7, 1974 to June 30, 1991 as a part-time employee.

Until January 1989 the bank operated a single pension scheme which part-time employees were not eligible to join. From January 1989 a pension scheme was set up for part-timers and Mrs Fletcher joined.

She first appreciated she had a claim for pension benefits in relation to her service before January 1989 when she received a circular from her trade union early in December 1994 explaining that she could make a claim.

The industrial tribunal chairman concluded that the claims were only in time if commenced within six months of the end of the contract of employment containing the equality clause allegedly breached by denial of access to the occupational pension scheme and that a declaration could not be made requiring an employer to admit an employee to a pension scheme with effect from a date prior to the date two years before the proceedings were commenced in the industrial tribunal.

The following issues arose on the appeal:

1 Did section 2(4) of the 1970 Act apply to claims made to the industrial tribunal under section 2(1) or did it only apply to referrals made by the secretary of state under section 2(3)?

In the appeal, Mr Phillips' judgment under section 2(1) and to referrals under section 2(3). *Etherson v Strathely Regional Council* (1992) ICR 579 was to be followed rather than the earlier decision of *British Railways Board v Paul* (1988) IRLR 23.

2 What were the time limits applicable to the institution of the claims?

The relevant time limit was the period of six months in section 2(4) of the 1970 Act. That time limit was not incompatible with EC law.

3 Did the principle in *Enmot v Minister for Social Welfare* (1993) ICR 8 preclude the state or an emanation of the state from relying on the time limits in section 2(4)?

That point affected public sector workers. It was based on a broad submission that the United Kingdom government failed at the relevant time to implement properly the provisions of Directive 75/117/EEC (OJ 1975 L45 p19), the equal pay directive.

The EAT agreed with the industrial tribunal chairman that it did not because the applicants were

not entitled to rely on the directive in parallel with, or instead of, a directly effective right to equal pay for equal work and the content and scope of that right was not altered by the directive.

4 Was the time limit in section 2(4) discriminatory in the sense that it treated Community claims less favourably than domestic law claims of a similar nature?

Section 2(4) was not discriminatory and not incompatible with Community law. The industrial tribunal chairman was correct in rejecting the submission that the time limit in section 2(4) was discriminatory of Community law claims and should be disapplied.

5 Did the time limit in section 2(4) make it impossible in practice or excessively difficult to exercise the Community law right?

The answer was "No". The time limit was reasonable. It did not start to run until the end of the contract. Even shorter periods than those in section 2(4) had been found to be compatible with Community law.

6 On the true construction of section 2(4) did the six-month time limit run from the end of the particular contract in force, or did it run from the end of the employment with the employer after a succession of fixed term contracts with no genuine breaks?

The time limit ran from the end of each contract under which a part-time employee was employed and not from the end of any employment contract. Any employment contract of different contracts of employment with the same employer.

7 Was the temporal restriction in section 2(4) to two years prior to the institution of proceedings compatible with Community law?

The answer was "Yes". No claim might be made for a declaration of a right to membership of a pension scheme, with the corresponding right to recover contribution from an employer, in respect of a period earlier than two years prior to the institution of the claim.

8 Were the rights of male part-time employees co-extensive with female part-time employees?

The answer was "Yes".

9 Was the applicants' only remedy a declaration of rights of access to the pension scheme and to benefit while a member of the scheme, or were they entitled to equal treatment in the payment of pension benefits and to claim damages for loss of benefits payable under the scheme?

The chairman was right to reject the argument that the applicants could claim damages for loss of benefits under the pension scheme. A declaration was the only remedy available for infringement of the applicants' rights.

10 Should any question be referred to the European Court of Justice? The appeal tribunal would not exercise their discretion to make a reference. There was no real doubt about the correct interpretation of the relevant provisions of Community law.

The appeals and cross-appeals would be dismissed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Lawford & Co; Booth & Co, Leeds.

Incompetence reason for director's disqualification

In re Continental Assurance Co of London plc

Before Mr Justice Chadwick

[Judgment June 14]

Gross incompetence which did not amount to dishonesty in a director of a company could be regarded as unfit for the office of director for the making of an order under section 6 of the Companies Act 1985. The degree of incompetence required by the Companies Act 1985 at least required that a director who was a corporate financier should be prepared to read and understand the statutory accounts of the company of which he was a director.

Mr Justice Chadwick so ruled in the Chancery Division when making a three-year disqualification order against Mr Michael Gordon Burt who was a director of Continental Assurance Company

of London plc from June 1988 to November 1991.

The order was imposed on the application of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry who sought disqualification orders against Mr Burt and two other directors of the company, Mr David Jonathan Burrows and Mr John Chapman Davis.

The sole allegation against Mr Burt related to unsecured interest-free loans made by Continental Assurance to Yorkdale Holdings bank loans made specifically for the purpose of acquiring shares in Continental Assurance.

The secretary of state's case was that those loans constituted financial assistance by Continental Assurance for the acquisition of its own shares contrary to section 151 of the Companies Act 1985, that there were no grounds for believ-

ing that Yorkdale would be able to repay the loans, that there was no commercial justification, advantage or benefit to Continental Assurance from the loans and that they were therefore made irresponsibly and were detrimental to creditors.

Mr David A. S. Richards, QC and Mr Joseph Hage for the secretary of state; Mr Richard Adkins, QC and Miss Susan Prevezar for Mr Burt; Mr Burrows did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE CHADWICK said that Mr Burt's evidence was that he did not know that the loans were being made. He was adamant that he had known he would have recognised the danger under the 1985 Act and would have taken steps to put an end to that lending.

He said that the fact that he did not seek to put an end to it was the

clearest evidence that he did not know. What was going on was of course plain to see. The decision for the court was between disqualifying Mr Burt when he said he did not know, and taking the view that he simply did not trouble as a director to read the accounts.

Mr Justice Chadwick said he was not prepared to disbelieve Mr Burt's evidence having seen him. It was plain that the means of knowledge were there for the taking.

His Lordship was forced therefore to the view that this was a case in which Mr Burt failed utterly to appreciate the responsibilities of a director.

Accordingly, his Lordship did not find that Mr Burt knew of the lending but found that his failure to know displayed very serious incompetence in connection with his duties as a director.

TENDERS AND CONTRACTS



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YELLOW PAGES ORDER FULFILMENT CONTRACT

This will involve all aspects of storage, handling, despatch and delivery of Yellow Pages customer orders which currently involves each year:

- Daily receipt of customer order requirements.
- Storage of approximately 2,000 tonnes (2,000 pallets) of directories.
- Handling and packaging of approximately 1.3 million directories.
- Despatch of approximately 800,000 parcel items annually.
- Successful delivery of all orders between 1 and 5 days of despatch.
- Detailed descriptions will be included in the invitation to tender.

PHONE BOOK ORDER FULFILMENT CONTRACT

This will involve all aspects of storage, handling, despatch and delivery of Phone Book customer orders which currently involves each year:

- Daily receipt of customer order requirements.
- Storage of approximately 3,000 tonnes (4,000 pallets) of directories over 18 months.
- Handling and packaging of approximately 4 million directories.
- Despatch of approximately 1.6 million parcel items annually.
- Successful delivery of all orders between 1 and 5 days of despatch.
- Detailed descriptions will be included in the invitation to tender.

YELLOW PAGES ORDER & ENQUIRY HANDLING SERVICE

This will involve all aspects of receiving, answering and processing all UK customer orders on behalf of Yellow Pages which currently involves:

- Receiving UK customer calls via an 0800 freephone contact line.
- Answering approximately 400,000 telephone enquiries per annum.
- Receiving approximately 40,000 written enquiries per annum.
- Processing approximately 300,000 customer requests for free and chargeable Yellow Pages.
- Operating and managing payment in advance requirements for chargeable Yellow Pages.
- Processing approximately 100,000 general enquiries regarding Yellow Pages.
- Detailed descriptions will be included in the invitation to tender.

Each contract will be let for a 3 year period from 1st April 1997 to 31st March 2000. Interested parties must communicate their intent by no later than 9th March 1996 to:

David Case or Matthew Pentland
British Telecommunications plc
Yellow Pages
Queens Walk, Reading
Berkshire, RG1 7PT

Telephone 01734 592111

Fax 01734 500318

Deadline for receipt of tenders will be 31st July 1996.

Function of Privy Council

Gayle v The Queen

It was not the function of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to act as a second Court of Criminal Appeal.

The Board (Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Griffiths, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Slynn and Sir Iain Gilmour) so stated on June 12 in dismissing an appeal by Michael Gayle from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica on December 16, 1991, refusing his application for leave to appeal against his conviction for murder.

LORD GRIFFITHS said that matters such as the weight properly to be given to evidence,

of decisions of the Court of Appeal which were not easily reconcilable. However, their Lordships took the view that the following principles emerged from those decisions:

1 A medical condition which might at some unidentified future date affect either life expectancy or the prisoner's ability to treat a prisoner's condition might call into operation the Home Secretary's powers of release by reference to the royal prerogative of mercy or otherwise but was not a reason for the Court of Appeal to interfere with an otherwise appropriate sentence: *R v Moore (Archibald)* (1990) 12 Cr App R (S) 384.

2 The fact that an offender was HIV positive, or had a reduced life expectancy, was not generally a reason which should affect sentence: *Moore (Archibald)* and *R v Moore (Richard)* (1994) 15 Cr App R (S) 97.

3 A serious medical condition, even when it was difficult to treat in prison, would not automatically entitle an offender to a lesser sentence than would otherwise be appropriate: *R v Wynne* (unreported, CA, April 18, 1994).

4 An offender's serious medical condition might enable a court, as an act of mercy in the exceptional circumstances of the particular case, rather than by virtue of any general principle, to impose a lesser sentence than would otherwise be appropriate.

Applying those principles in the present case and taking into account that the judge's starting point was too high, the age of the appellant and, as an act of mercy, his medical condition, their Lordships concluded that the sentence passed by the judge was longer than was necessary.

Solicitors: Mian & Co, Birmingham.

THE TIMES

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Middlesex selector wins final £1,000 prize

German solidity wins out with French connection

STEVEN BIRCHFIELD carried off the real honours in *The Times* Euro Interactive Team Football's main competition, but there was a final consolation prize of £1,000 to be won, encompassing the final stages of the European championship.

The winner of section five of the Euro ITF game, run in association with Wintertur, was Mr R. Sindall, of Edgware, in Middlesex, whose team, Natianmat, amassed 53 points for the section. He finished 71st overall.

Mr Sindall's XI boasted the complete set of France defenders — Thuram, Blanc, Desailly and Lizarazu — as well as the most valuable England players, Gascoigne and Shearer, and the Germany coach, Bert Vogts, whose 25 points was the highest score by either manager or player.

The full team of Mr Sindall was as follows:

Goalkeeper
Edwin van der Sar (Holland)

Full backs
Bixente Lizarazu (France)
Lilian Thuram (France)

Central defenders
Laurent Blanc (France)
Marcel Desailly (France)

Midfield players
Patrick Berger (Czech Rep, RS)
Andi Moller (Germany)
David Platt (England)
Paul Gascoigne (England)

Strikers
Jurgen Klinsmann (Germany)
Alan Shearer (England)

Manager
Bert Vogts (Germany)



Vogts, the Germany coach, had a score of 25 points



The presentation for Mr Birchfield, the winner of Euro ITF, was made yesterday at the Credit Suisse building in Cabot Square, Trevor Brook, the former England midfielder player and television commentator, handed over the cheque to the winner and his wife.

The final standings in Euro ITF were extremely close, with only four points separating Mr Birchfield's team from his closest rival, Mr J. Bingham, of Thames Ditton, Surrey. In third place, five points adrift of the winner, was Mr R. E. J. Ryall, of Watford. Indeed, the competition was not decided until Oliver Bierhoff's dramatic "golden goal" in the fifth minute of extra time on Sunday.

Apart from Vogts, who as manager of the championship-winning team was always likely to be the highest points-scorer, the leading scorers in Euro ITF were a Frenchman and an Englishman. Laurent Blanc, the Auxerre central defender, and Alan Shearer, the Blackburn Rovers forward, both scored

18 points in the game. The importance of having these two players at least was emphasised by the fact that all of the leading three selectors had this double act in their side.

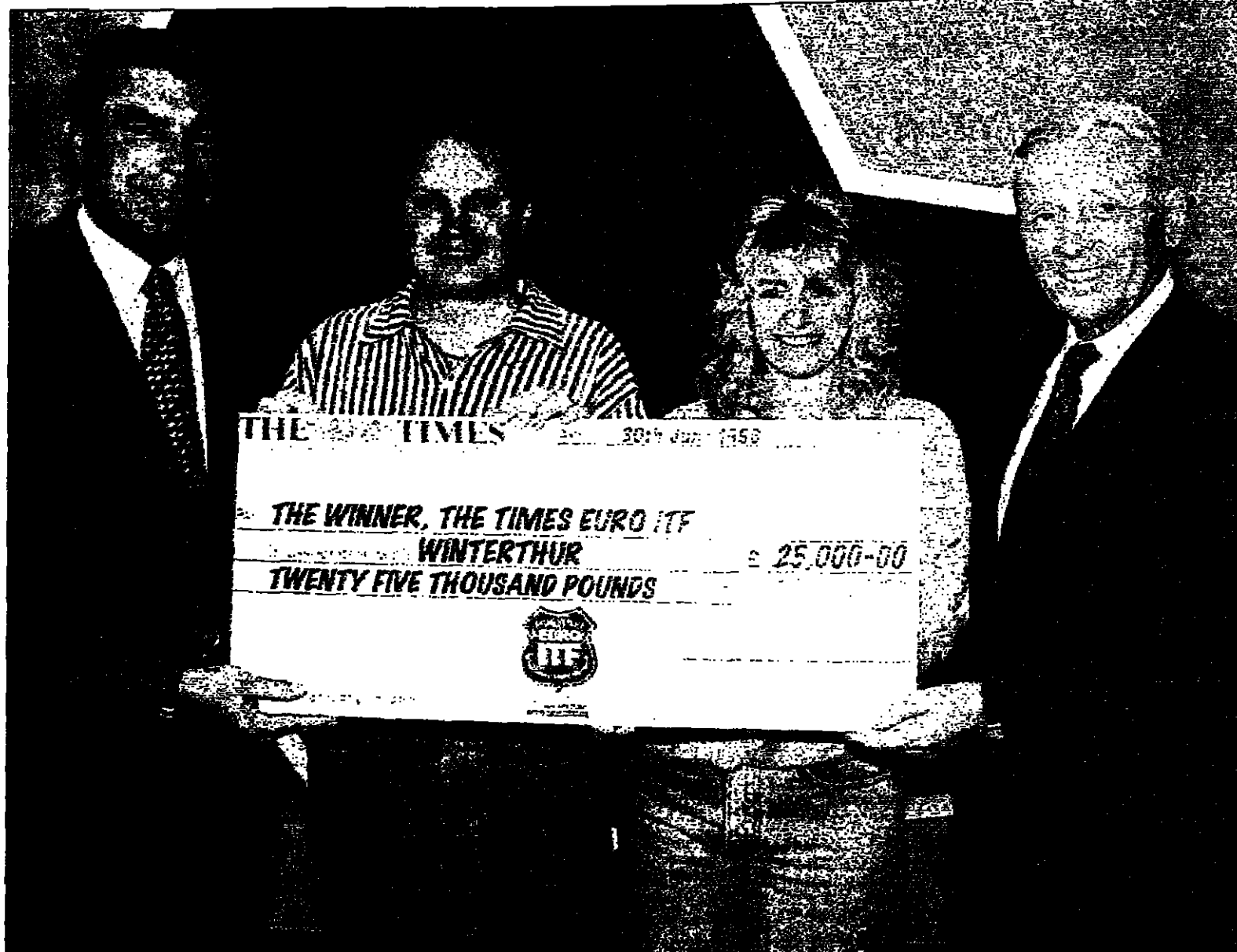
The perceptive Euro ITF selectors recognised the importance of having goal-scoring defenders and midfield players in their side, as well as defenders and goalkeepers who kept clean sheets. Hence the value of players such as Lizarazu and Sammer, of Germany, who scored 12 points apiece; and also of the Czech Republic pairing of Berger — who converted the Czechs' penalty in the final — and Poborski, who amassed ten and 12 points respectively. Other valuable midfield players included Gascoigne, of England, and Vincent Guerin, of France, who both scored 13 points.

Upfield, the sole criterion was goals and thus most selectors plumped for Shearer — who scored five goals in the European championship and was the tournament's leading scorer — and Klinsmann, who, despite missing one game through suspension and one-and-a-half games through injury, still managed to find the back of the net three times during Euro 96. Three other forwards made it into double figures: Suker, of Croatia, Djorkaeff, of France, and Teddy Sheringham, of Tottenham Hotspur, who all scored ten points.

In the managers' category, it was a simple case of backing a winner — and most eventually ended up with Bert Vogts. A large number of Euro ITF selectors started the game with Vogts as their manager, although Mr Birchfield, the eventual winner, began with Javier Clemente, the Spain coach, but transferred him after the disappointing start made by the Spanish against Bulgaria.

Part of the skill in being a Euro ITF selector was choosing the correct Rising Star. Sixteen young players were selected by an expert panel before the European championship began, one from each country. However, because of the vagaries of selection, form and injuries, not all of the designated Rising Stars have played a full part in the tournament. Therefore backing the right man — most astute judges picked Zinedine Zidane, the France midfielder player — was important.

□ All queries on Euro Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171-757 7016.



Steven Birchfield and his wife, Loraine, centre, are awarded the £25,000 prize by Peter Späth, of Wintertur, right, and Trevor Brook

Larger Louts succeed with Bierhoff

Steven Birchfield, the Euro Interactive Team Football winner, tells James Willoughby his method of success

Republic scored. I thought it was the end, but luckily it was Berger, my rising star, who took the penalty and that made up for Köpke, my goalkeeper, and Sammer losing their clean sheets.

"It was never a penalty, anyway. The foul was clearly outside the box."

The success of Larger Louts underlines the importance of using the transfer system to the full. Larger Louts made 19 transfers to achieve the winning combination.

"I think *The Times*'s Euro ITF has been a fantastic competition and I am not just saying that because I won," Mr Birchfield continued.

"I have played other games like this and you have to stick with the team you chose at the start. The interactive element makes it interesting and made the whole thing that much more exciting for us."

Mr Birchfield admitted that although he has a keen interest in European football, he needed the help of *The*

Times's Euro 96 supplement to select some of his players. "I knew most of them, but had never seen Lizarazu and Berger, and picked them because of the write-up they were given. After that I kept up with the team and injury news both in *The Times* and on teletext."

In picking and fine-tuning his team, Mr Birchfield, an Everton fan, realised the importance of a solid defence from the start and made his back four and goalkeeper a priority.

He initially looked no further than the German pair, Sammer and Reuter, and added Köpke as the tournament reached its conclusion. Bert Vogts, the Germany coach, was an ever-present.

"The Germans are traditionally good in defence, but ironically, it was their goalkeeper, Köpke, who nearly cost me because I had used Seaman for most of the competition; Seaman is the best

goalkeeper in the world."

At the other end of the pitch, Larger Louts could drink to the success of England's Alan Shearer and Youri Djorkaeff, of France. Shearer's five goals gained much-needed points and any side without him struggled to make an impact in Euro ITF. Djorkaeff was one of the players who most impressed Mr Birchfield.

"Djorkaeff always looked dangerous and impressed me very much. I like the way he plays and he also impressed me as a team player, unlike many other strikers."

"Although I had the best side on paper, I do not think they would blend particularly well. All great sides need some players who are prepared to take a back seat. Too many individuals can spoil a team. Take Newcastle United, for example. They looked to have the last Premiership title in the bag until Keegan signed Asprilla."

STEPHEN BIRCHFIELD'S FINAL XI

GOALKEEPER: Andreas Köpke (Germany)
FULL BACKS: Stefan Reuter (Germany)
Bixente Lizarazu (France)
CENTRAL DEFENDERS: Matthias Sammer (Germany)
Laurent Blanc (France)
MIDFIELD PLAYERS: Paul Gascoigne (England)
Patrick Berger (Czech Republic)
Didier Deschamps (France)
Ronald de Boer (Holland)
STRIKERS: Youri Djorkaeff (France)
Alan Shearer (England)
MANAGER: Bert Vogts (Germany)

THE FINAL TOP 250 SELECTORS IN EURO INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts	Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Larger Louts	(S Birchfield)	135	108	One Lopez	(S Wright)	106	176	Go Aghalee	(K Troughton)	102
2	J C B 1	(J Bingham)	131	109	Peter's Peaches	(P Howard)	105	176	The Poodles	(M Griffiths)	102
3	Trebort 2	(R E J Ryall)	130	110	Best of Both Feet	(D Riley)	105	176	Nobby 42	(J Brown)	102
4	Don't Finish 2nd	(J Ralph)	129	110	—	—	105	176	Igor's Barry Army	(R Jones)	102
5	Try Town Ruckets	(C Hanson)	127	110	—	—	105	176	Az44 Highgrovers	(S Linsley)	102
6	Hannay	(R Jackson)	124	110	Over Hill United	(M James)	105	176	Dale One	(R Sindall)	102
7	Euro Paulo	(P O'Connell)	123	110	Euro Gauldry	(G Robertson)	105	176	Geeboah Raiders	(G S Hayre)	102
8	Eurotrash	(D Cook)	122	110	Baker's Dozen	(C Baker)	105	176	Res 5	(D Shuter)	102
9	Punjabi Warriors	(K S Rai)	122	109	Cream Of Europe FC	(P Brannan)	105	176	Parbold Ploddors	(G Rothwell)	102
10	Deydondodododere	(T Kelly)	121	109	Hudders' Heroes	(J Lofthouse)	105	176	Ian's Euro Super XI	(I Tamwell)	102
10	Offside Wingers	(L Moore)	121	109	Ray's Boys	(R M Chase)	105	199	Buckindilly	(M Hill)	101
10	Why No 2nd Prize?	(J Ralph)	121	109	Last Chance City	(J Ralph)	105	199	F Connection	(F Simon)	101
10	Ras A	(D Shuter)	121	109	Pota's Peasants	(P Bodford)	105	199	Monski Maulers	(C Vile)	101
14	Irish Not At Euro 96	(M Drumm)	120	109	Percy's Posers	(J Parsich)	105	199	J P Estrelles	(G Hall)	101
14	Euro Skinnies	(I D Brunt)	120	109	800 Box	(J R Porter)	105	199	Fulham's Fancies	(K Browne)	101
16	Peyez K	(P Mestachian)	119	109	Ras C	(D Shuter)	105	199	Euro Glants	(R Morris)	101
17	Woodside United	(T Gillibrand)	119	109	Simply The Best	(M Param)	105	199	Duncan's Euro Dodger	(J Duncan)	101
17	Nobby 17	(J Browne)	117	109	Baker's Dozen	(G Baker)	105	199	An Irish Dream	(D Kiffin)	101
17	100 To 1	(G Molyneux)	117	109	Paddy's XI	(T B H Vance)	105	199	The Super Blues	(K Irvine)	101
20	SS Mary & Paul FC	(D Troake)	116	109	Butty's Eurostars	(P Harris)	105	199	Gazza Great	(G Callum)	101
20	Simpoland	(D M Simpson)	116	109	Bravehearts XI	(N O'Mullan)	104	199	B B B	(J Brown)	101
22	Setoreplay FC	(S Horrobin)	115	109	Teles Smashers	(T Johnson)	104	199	—	—	101
22	John Hunt 2	(J Hunt)	115	109	Foot Tappers B	(G Tapper)	104	199	Game On Ltd	(D Simmons)	101
22	—	—	115	109	Percy's Fourth Team	(P Prust)	104	199	Cad Crows 11	(D Dawson)	101
22	Euro Revelation	(J Gillan)	115	109	—	—	104	199	Obiz	(D Sheehan)	101
22	Fors Fortuna	(S Clifford)	115	109	Tyrosal Hotspur	(T Alder)	104	199	The Playmakers	(S M Thomas)	101
22	Nobby 32	(J Brown)	115	109	The Simpsons	(G Whitley)	104	199	And 30 Years Later	(G Wells)	101
22	The Dogs	(D Fawcett)	115	109	Lupus Shenanigans	(G Camacho)	104	199	Rapidd Declined	(M Douglas)	101
29	Magic Murray	(M MacMillan)	114	109	Penfold 11 (Eleven)	(J Brown)	104	199	Where Is Norway?	(C Sanders)	101
29	Portuguese Kings	(C Mill-Homena)	114	109	Nobby 42	(S Black)	104	199	Tryon's Rockers	(C Ansen)	101
29	The Money's All Mine	(T Hall)	114	109	—	—	104	199	Betty's Boopers	(J N Fairfax)	101
29	Disco Culo	(J Nicol)	114	109	Saxon Warriors	(R Gray)	104	199	Briggs' Euro XII	(J Briggs)	101
29	50 Years Of The Best	(B Cooke)	114	109	Das C	(D Shuter)	104	221	Yersh's Golden Euro9	(S Yershon)	100
29	Gb's Eleven	(P F Davis)	114	109	European Elite	(P Woloszyn)	104	221	Dave's Team	(D Hanson)	100
35	Euro Tarddear	(M Vorajee)	113	109	Toby's Team	(C Jones)	104	221	K C's Bouncers	(M Reader)	100
35	K-9 1	(A Luckhurst)	113	109	Langton Hotshots	(S Ward)	103	221	Old Stationers	(D Hudson)	100
35	Str's No 2's	(S Dickson)	113	109	Sonic 1	(A Wood)	103	221	Sheer Magic	(P Walker)	100
35	Heggle	(J Atkin)	113	109	Terry's All Gold 3	(J Hood)	103	221	Rob's Rangers	(R Aze)	100
35	The Troy Town Packer	(C Anson)	113	109	—	—	103	221	Hart's Heroes	(J Hart)	100
40	Smiley the beast!	(M Ambler)	112	109	Emmalot	(P Walsh)	103	221	—	—	100
40	Keele Villa	(J Martin)	112	109	Irish FC	(M Rapp)	103	221	Bud's Babes	(D H Burgess)	100
40	Stoneygate	(G Henningham)	112	109	Revelation XII	(R Charlton)	103	221	Nobby 19	(J Brown)	100
40	Experimental "G"	(T Sainsbury)	112	109	Adairville	(M Ryley)	103	221	Euro Scorpions Ltd	(A MacAdam)	100
40	Mervilla	(W D J Moore)	112	109	Goal Machines	(A Pope)	103	221	The European Altstar	(J Jackson)	100
40	Troy Town Sharks	(C Anson)	112	109	The Hula Hoops	(R S Sandiando)	103	221	Remember 86	(P Pickock)	100
40	J G 3	(J Goody)	112	109	Aber Alkaters	(D Edwards)	103	221	Antrobos Angels 2	(V Gurnares)	100
47	Crest Horrible	(S Horrobin)	111	109	Helen Rose Flies	(P Gargica)	103	221	V P G Lusitania 1996	(A F Pilling)	100
47	Pot-de-vin	(A Sandiford)	111	109	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	103	221	Colby Cornedrums	(D Tang)	100
47	Scott's Crackpots	(P D Scott)	111	109	Tuff's Lions	(A Jones)	103	221	OP's Euro Uno 2	(N Casson)	100
47	Carlton's Kings	(K Sharma)	111	109	Athletes Lister	(P Nicholson)	102	221	Fancasastic	(J Lofthouse)	100
47	Loughran	(S Loughran)	111	109	—	—	102	221	Hudders' Heroes	(J Brown)	100
47	Two Halves United	(J Barton)	111	109	Questangatoray	(K Harper)	102	221	Melon Twisters	(J Muir)	100
47	Paip Addiction	(A Everton)	111	109	Harp's Eurostars	(S Shipley)	102	221	B T S 111	(S Symsky)	100
47	Rebette Peppers	(S Harris)	111	109	Slept Against E	(J Hampson)	102	221	Sumo 2	(C Stokes)	100
55	Hair Criminals	(C Browne)	110	109	Beardless 2	(L Happen)	102	221	Skot	(I McLean)	100
55	FC Shalimar	(W Lamb)	110	109	The Dunottars Avenue	(M Baber)	102	221	Harry — Bugs	(C Oswald)	100
55	Rhino's Rangers 4	(S Ebba)	110	109	Wellanjili	(P Prest)	102	221	Columbians "B"	(P A Chaplin)	100
55	Team Z	(R Pillai)	110	109	Percy And Stan	(J Fahney)	102	221	Smashing Young Men	(O S Carnatho)	100
55	—	—	110	109	Up The Blues!	(M Adams)	102	221	Viking Wanderers	(E Holmes)	100
55	Ooh Aah Cantona	(P Grant)	110	109	Makers Marvels	(J Hinton)	102	221	Fantasy Land	(J Brookes)	100
55	Los Maffinjes!	(S G Coulson)	110	109	Jay's All Stars	(G Whigh)	102	221	—	—	100
55	Shearer Glory	(P Highway)	110	109	Rainbow Jokers	(G Wives)	102	221	—	—	100

سكنا من الاصل

The final countdown: check your players' scores at the end of the Euro ITF game

GOALKEEPERS

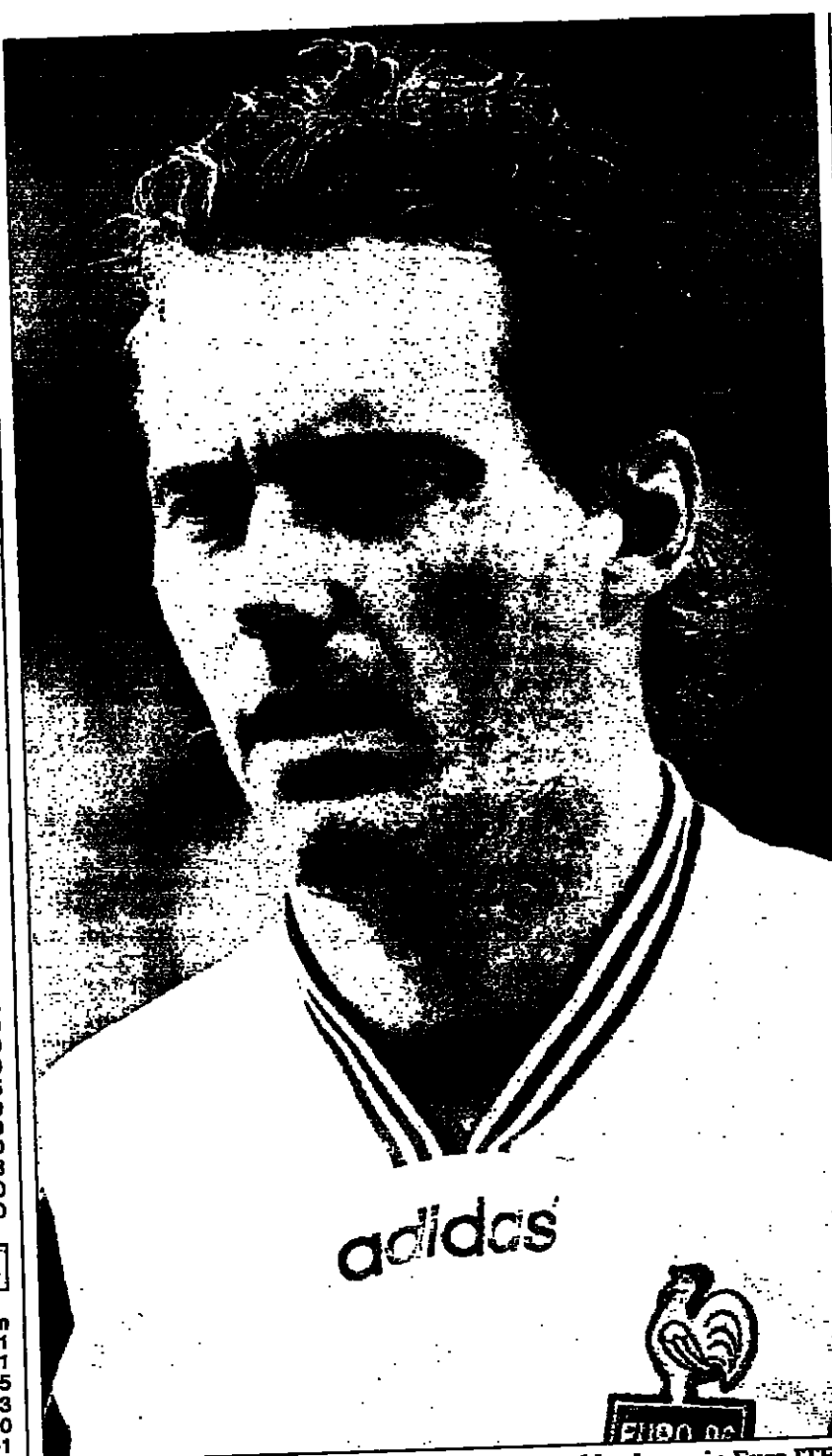
Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
10101	Borislav Mykhailov	(Bulgaria, Reading)	0 -1
10102	Dimitar Popov	(Bulgaria, CSKA)	0 0
10103	Zdravko Zdravkov	(Bulgaria, Slavia Sofia)	0 0
10201	Tonci Gabric	(Croatia, Hajduk Split)	0 0
10202	Drazen Ladice	(Croatia, Croatia Zagreb)	0 +7
10203	Marijan Mirmic	(Croatia, Varteks Varazdin)	0 -5
10301	Petr Kouba	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	0 -5
10302	Ludek Miklosko	(Czech Rep, West Ham United)	0 0
10303	Pavel Smisek	(Czech Rep, Newcastle United)	0 0
10304	Ladislav Mader	(Czech Rep, Slovan Liberec)	0 0
10401	Lars Hoegh	(Denmark, Odense)	0 0
10402	Mogens Krogh	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 0
10403	Peter Schmeichel	(Denmark, Manchester United)	0 -2
10501	Tim Flowers	(England, Blackburn Rovers)	0 0
10502	David Seaman	(England, Arsenal)	-13 -6
10503	Ian Walker	(England, Tottenham Hotspur)	0 0
10601	Fabien Barthez	(France, Monaco)	0 0
10602	Bernard Lama	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	-7 -4
10603	Bruno Martini	(France, Montpellier)	0 0
10701	Oliver Kahn	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	0 0
10702	Stefan Klos	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	0 0
10703	Andreas Köpcke	(Germany, Eintracht Frankfurt)	-9 -4
10704	Oliver Reck	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	0 0
10801	Ed de Goey	(Holland, Feyenoord)	0 -2
10802	Edwin van der Sar	(Holland, Ajax)	0 0
10803	Ruud Hesp	(Holland, Roda JC)	0 0
10901	Lucas Bucci	(Italy, Parma)	0 0
10902	Angelo Peruzzi	(Italy, Juventus)	0 +1
10903	Francesco Toldo	(Italy, Fiorentina)	0 0
11001	Vitor Baia	(Portugal, FC Porto)	0 +8
11002	Alfredo Castro	(Portugal, Boavista)	0 0
11003	Rui Correia	(Portugal, Braga)	0 0
11004	Pavel Corcinha	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 0
11101	Florin Tene	(Romania, Rapid Bucharest)	0 0
11102	Florin Prunea	(Romania, Dinamo Bucharest)	-3 -3
11103	Bogdan Stelea	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 0
11201	Stanislav Cherchesov	(Russia, FC Tyot)	0 -5
11202	Dmitri Kharine	(Russia, Chelsea)	0 0
11203	Sergei Ovchinnikov	(Russia, Lokomotiv Moscow)	0 0
11301	Andy Goram	(Scotland, Rangers)	+7 +0
11302	Jim Leighton	(Scotland, Hibernian)	0 0
11303	Nicky Walker	(Scotland, Partick Thistle)	0 0
11401	Andoni Zubizarreta	(Spain, Valencia)	0 0
11402	Santiago Caizares	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 0
11403	José Molina	(Spain, Atlético Madrid)	0 0
11501	Stephane Lehmann	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 0
11502	Marco Pascolo	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	-5 -5
11503	Pavel Zuberbühler	(Switzerland, Servette)	0 0
11601	Joel Cornilleboeuf	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	0 0
11602	İpekoglu Engin	(Turkey, Fenerbahçe)	0 -8
11603	Ruslan Reber	(Turkey, Fenerbahçe)	0 0
11604	Erkan Arslan	(Turkey, Ankaragücüspor)	0 0
11605	Göymen Sarver	(Turkey, Altayspor)	0 0

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
20131	Iliyan Kiryakov	(Bulgaria, Anorthosis)	0 +1
20132	Radostin Kishishev	(Bulgaria, Neftohimik B — RS)	0 -5
20133	Emil Kremeliev	(Bulgaria, Olympiakos)	0 -3
20134	Tzanko Tsvetanov	(Bulgaria, Waldhof Mannheim)	0 0
20231	Elvis Brajkovic	(Croatia, Bayern Munich)	0 -1
20232	Robert Jarni	(Croatia, Real Betis)	0 -1
20233	Nikola Jurcovic	(Croatia, Freiburg)	0 -5
20331	Dario Sinic	(Czech Rep, Schalke 04)	0 -5
20332	Radoslav Latal	(Czech Rep, Slavia Prague)	0 0
20333	Jiri Lerch	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	-3 -7
20334	Nelson Repka	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	0 0
20335	Jan Suchoparek	(Czech Rep, Sigma Olomouc)	+1 +1
20431	Martin Kotalik	(Denmark, Lyngby)	0 +2
20432	Thomas Helveg	(Denmark, Silkeborg — RS)	0 -5
20433	Jacob Laurson	(Denmark, Aarhus)	0 0
20434	Torben Flechsmann	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 0
20531	Jens Rasmussen	(England, Liverpool)	0 0
20532	Gary Neville	(England, Manchester United)	0 0
20533	Philipp Neville	(England, Manchester United)	+2 +7
20534	Stuart Pearce	(England, Nottingham Forest)	0 0
20535	Soi Campbell	(England, Tottenham)	0 +1
20631	Jocelyn Angiomu	(France, Turin)	0 0
20632	Eric di Meo	(France, AS Monaco)	0 0
20633	Blaise Nzingue	(France, Bordeaux)	+7 +12
20634	William Thuram	(France, AS Monaco)	+1 +7
20731	Stefan Reuter	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	0 0
20732	Rene Schneider	(Germany, Rostock)	0 0
20831	Frank de Boer	(Holland, Ajax)	0 +4
20832	Winston Bogarde	(Holland, Ajax)	0 +5
20833	Michael Reiziger	(Italy, AC Milan)	0 -8
20931	Luigi Apolloni	(Italy, AS Roma)	0 0
20932	Amel Carboni	(Italy, AS Roma)	0 0
20933	Paolo Maldini	(Italy, AC Milan)	0 0
20934	Roberto Mussi	(Italy, Parma)	0 0
21031	Fernando Nelson	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 +1
21032	Paulinho Santos	(Portugal, FC Porto)	0 +2
21033	Carlos Saldanha	(Portugal, FC Porto)	0 0
21034	José Tavares	(Portugal, Boavista)	0 +6
21035	Dimostel Telazari	(Romania, Universitatea Craiova)	0 0
21131	Dimostel Telazari	(Romania, Chelsea)	0 -5
21132	Dan Petrescu	(Romania, Cercle Brugge)	0 -8
21133	Tibor Selmesy	(Romania, Dinamo Moscow)	0 -6
21231	Yuri Kovtun	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 0
21232	Ramiz Mamedov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 -3
21233	Sergei Gorkovtsov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 0
21331	Tommy Boyd	(Scotland, Celtic)	0 +1
21332	Craig Burley	(Scotland, Celtic)	0 +4
21333	Stewart McMillin	(Scotland, Aberdeen)	0 0
21334	Brian O'Neill	(Scotland, Celtic)	0 -2
21335	Toshi McKinlay	(Spain, Barcelona)	0 -1
21431	Sergi Barjau	(Spain, Real Zaragoza)	0 +3
21432	Alberto Belsue	(Spain, Barcelona)	0 -2
21433	Albert Ferrer	(Spain, Valencia)	0 -1
21434	Jorge Otero	(Spain, Atlético Madrid)	0 -4
21435	J. M Lopez Martinez	(Spain, Espanol)	0 -6
21531	Marc Hottinger	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 -4
21532	Yvan Quentin	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	0 -3
21533	Sebastien Jeanneret	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 0
21534	Raphael Wicky	(Turkey, Besiktas)	0 -8
21631	Recep Ceylan	(Turkey, DC Karabükspor)	0 0
21632	Inceefe Vedat	(Turkey, DC Karabükspor)	0 0

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
30131	Krasimir Chomakov	(Bulgaria, Maritza Plovdiv)	0 0
30132	Valentini Darilov	(Bulgaria, Levski Sofia)	0 0
30133	Gosho Guinechev	(Bulgaria, Denizlispor)	0 -7
30134	Petar Hachev	(Bulgaria, Rapid Vienna)	0 0
30135	Slaven Bilic	(Croatia, West Ham United)	0 0
30231	Nikola Jerkan	(Croatia, Real Oviedo)	0 +4
30232	Dubravko Pavlicic	(Croatia, Hajduk Split)	0 -5
30233	Zvonimir Soldo	(Croatia, Croatia Zagreb)	0 -5
30234	Igor Stimac	(Croatia, Derby County)	0 0
30331	Michal Hornek	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+4 +2
30332	Miroslav Kadlec	(Czech Rep, Kaiserslautern)	+2 +0
30333	Lubos Kubik	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+4 +4
30334	Karel Rada	(Czech Rep, Sigma Olomouc)	0 -2
30431	Jens Hoegh	(Denmark, Fenerbahçe)	0 0
30432	Lars Olsen	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 0
30433	Marc Rieper	(Denmark, West Ham United)	-1 +3
30531	Tony Adams	(England, Arsenal)	0 0
30532	Gary Pallister	(England, Manchester United)	0 0
30533	Gareth Southgate	(England, Aston Villa)	+7 +18
30534	Steve Howey	(England, Newcastle United)	+4 +9
30631	Laurent Blanc	(France, AC Milan)	0 0
30632	Marcel Desailly	(France, Strasbourg)	+3 +1
30633	Frank LeBoeuf	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	-2 +3
30634	Alain Roche	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	-3 +8
30731	Merkus Babbel	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	0 0
30732	Thomas Helmer	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	0 0
30733	Jürgen Kohler	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	-4 +12
30734	Mathias Sammer	(Holland, Ajax)	0 +2
30831	Dany Biland	(Holland, Roda JC)	0 +8
30832	Johan de Kock	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	0 0
30833	Stan Valick	(Holland, Sparta Rotterdam)	0 0
30834	John Veldman	(Italy, AC Milan)	0 0
30931	Alessandro Costacurta	(Italy, Juventus)	0 0
30932	Ciro Ferrara	(Italy, Juventus)	0 0
30933	Moreno Torricelli	(Italy, Lazio)	0 +9
30934	Alessandro Nesta	(Portugal, Parma)	0 +5
31031	Fernando Couto	(Portugal, Benfica)	0 0
31032	Helder Cristovao	(Portugal, Belenenses)	0 0
31033	Paulo Madeira	(Portugal, Boavista)	0 0
31034	Carlos Magalhães	(Portugal, Boavista)	0 -3
31035	Fernando Mendes	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	-2 -2
31131	Antoni Dobos	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 -8
31132	George Mihail	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 -4
31133	Georghe Popescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 -1
31134	Miklos Prodan	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 -1
31135	Miklos Prodan	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	0 -1
31231	Yevgeny Bushmanov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 -10
31232	Yuri Nikiforov	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 -10
31233	Omar Tetrado	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 -10



Blanc, of France, was one of the two most valuable players in Euro ITF

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
31331	Colin Calderwood	(Scotland, Tottenham Hotspur)	0 +4
31332	Colin Hendry	(Scotland, Blackburn Rovers)	0 +4
31333	Alan McLaren	(Scotland, Rangers)	0 0
31334	Derek Whyte	(Scotland, Middlesbrough)	0 0
31431	Rafael Alkorta	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 -2
31432	Abelardo Fernandez	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 0
31433	Fernando Hierro	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 +1
31434	Miquel Angel Nadal	(Spain, Barcelona)	-2 -2
31531	Alain Geiger	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	0 -5
31532	Stephane Henchoz	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 0
31533	Dominique Herr	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	-7 -7
31534	Roman Vega	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	0 0
31535	Régis Rothenbühler	(Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	0 -7
31631	Alpay Ozal	(Turkey, Besiktas)	0 -4
31632	Bulent Korkmaz	(Turkey, Galatasaray)	0 -5
31633	Ogun Temizkanlioglu	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	0 0
31634	Ozkoylu Osman	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	0 0

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
40141	Krasimir Balafov	(Bulgaria, VfB Stuttgart)	0 +4
40142	Daniel Bormirov	(Bulgaria, Munich 1860)	0 0
40143	Borcho Guechev	(Bulgaria, Luton Town)	0 0
40144	Yordan Lichkov	(Bulgaria, Hamburg)	0 +3
40145	Zlatko Yankov	(Bulgaria, Bayer Uerdingen)	0 +3
40146	Ivaylo Yordanov	(Bulgaria, VfB Stuttgart)	0 0
40147	Georgi Donkov	(Bulgaria, CSKA Sofia)	0 +5
40241	Aljosa Asanovic	(Croatia, AC Milan)	0 +8
40242	Zvonimir Boban	(Croatia, Salzburg)	0 +1
40243	Mladen Mladenovic	(Croatia, Hajduk Split)	0 +4
40244	Nenad Pralija	(Croatia, Barcelona)	0 +4
40245	Robert Prosinecki	(Croatia, FC Bruges — RS)	+7 +10
40341	Mario Stanic	(Czech Rep, Viktoria Zizkov)	0 0
40342	Petr Berger	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	0 +1
40343	Michal Bilek	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	0 0
40344	Martin Frydek	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	0 0
40345	Pavel Hapal	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+3 +8
40346	Pavel Nedved	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+1 +2
40347	Vaclav Nemecek	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+5 +12
40348	Karel Poborsky	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+1 +8
40349	Radek Bejbi	(Czech Rep, Sparta Prague)	+2 +2
40441	Pavel Novotny	(Denmark, Real Madrid)	0 +4
40442	Michael Laudrup	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 +4
40443	Stig Thorsing	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 +4
40444	Peter Nielsen	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 +2
40445	Brian Steen Nielsen	(Denmark, Brøndby)	0 +2
40446	Michael Schjoneberg	(Denmark, Lyngby)	0 +2
40447	Claus Thomsen	(Denmark, Lyngby)	0 +2
40448	Henrik Larsen	(Denmark, Lyngby)	0 +2
40449	Stig Thorsing	(England, Tottenham Hotspur)	+1 +7
40450	Darren Anderton	(England, Rangers)	+2 +13
40451	Paul Gascoigne	(England, Rangers)	+1 +3
40452	Paul Ince	(England, Newcastle United)	0 0
40453	Robert Lee	(England, Liverpool)	+1 +7
40454	Steve McManaman	(England, Liverpool)	+3 +7
40455	David Platt	(England, Nottingham Forest)	0 0
40456	Stevie Stone	(England, Chelsea)	0 0
40457	Dennis Wise	(England, Chelsea)	0 0
40458	Jamie Redknapp	(England, Liverpool)	0 +5
40459	Dieder Derschamps	(France, Paris Saint-Germain)	+4 +13
40460	Vincent Guérin	(France, Sampdoria)	0 +4
40461	Christian Karembeu	(France, Auxerre)	+1 +1
40462	Sabri Lamouchi	(France, Auxerre)	0 0
40463	Cosmin Martinu	(France, Auxerre)	+4 +12
40464	Zinedine Zidane	(France, Bordeaux — RS)	0 0
40465	Mario Basler	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+1 +1
40466	Marco Bode	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+2 +9
40467	Dieter Eilts	(Germany, Werder Bremen)	+1 +4
40468	Steffen Freund	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+4 +8
40469	Thomas Häßler	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+2 +10
40470	André Hildebrand	(Germany, Borussia Dortmund)	+3 +1
40471	Mehmet Scholl	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	+3 +11
40472	Christian Ziege	(Germany, Bayern Munich)	0 +2
40473	Edgar Davids	(Holland, Ajax — RS)	0 +8
40474	Ronald de Boer	(Holland, Ajax — RS)	0 0
40475	Wim Jonk	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	0 +2
40476	Clarence Seedorf	(Holland, PSV Eindhoven)	0 +2
40477	Aron Winter	(Italy, AC Milan)	0 0
40478	Philip Cocu	(Italy, AC Milan)	0 0
40479	Demetrio Albertini	(Italy, Juventus)	0 +1
40480	Dino Baggio	(Italy, Juventus)	0 +1
40481	Alessandro del Piero	(Italy, Lazio)	0 +2
40482	Angelo di Livio	(Italy, Lazio)	0 +2
40483	Roberto di Matteo	(Italy, Lazio)	0 0
40484	Roberto Donadoni	(Italy, Lazio)	0 0
40485	Diego Fuser	(Italy, Lazio)	0 0
40486	Fabio Rossitto	(Italy, Lazio)	0 0
40487	Paulo Bento	(Portugal, Benfica)	0 0
40488	Nuno Capucho	(Portugal, Benfica)	0 +5
40489	Rui Costa	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 +7
40490	Oscar Cruz	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 0
40491	Vitor Figueira	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 +4
40492	Sal Pinto	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 +4
40493	Paulo Sousa	(Portugal, Sporting Lisbon)	0 0
40494	Julian Filipescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest — RS)	0 +2
40495	Ioan Mateu Lupescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 0
40496	Loan Mateu Lupescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 +2
40497	Dorinel Munteanu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 0
40498	Horia Radu Niculescu	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 0
40499	Nica Besarab Panduru	(Romania, Steaua Bucharest)	0 0

Code	Name	(Country, club)	Wk Cum
41147	Ioan Sabau	(Romania, Brescia)	0 0
41148	Ovidiu Stinga	(Romania, Salernanica)	0 +1
41241	Andrei Kanchelskis	(Russia, Everton)	0 +3
41242	Valery Karpin	(Russia, Real Sociedad)	0 +5
41243	Alexander Mostovoi	(Russia, Strasbourg)	0 0
41244	Viktor Onopko	(Russia, Oviedo)	0 0
41245	Andrei Piatnitski	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 +2
41246	Vladislav Radimov	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	0 0
41247	Igor Shalimov	(Russia, Udinese)	0 0
41248	Ilya Tsybalyar	(Russia, Spartak Moscow)	0 +4
41249	Dmitry Khokhlov	(Russia, CSKA Moscow)	0 +2
41250	Igor Yankovsky	(Russia, Alaniya Vladikavkaz)	0 +3
41341	John Collins	(Scotland, Celtic)	0 0
41342	Scott Gemmill	(Scotland, Nottingham Forest)	0 +4
41343	Gary McAllister	(Scotland, Leeds United)	0 +4
41344	Stuart McCall	(Scotland, Rangers)	0 0
41345	Billy McKinley	(Scotland, Blackburn Rovers)	0 0
41346	Pat Nevlin	(Scotland, Tranmere Rovers)	0 0
41441	Jose Luis Camarero	(Spain, Atletico Madrid)	0 +5
41442	Donato Garna da Silva	(Spain, Deportivo La Coruña)	0 0
41443	Jon Andoni Goicoechea	(Spain, Athletic Bilbao)	0 0
41444	Josep Guardiola	(Spain, Barcelona)	0 0
41445	Julen Guerrero	(Spain, Athletic Bilbao)	0 +1
41446	Luis Enrique Martínez	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 +6
41447	Guillermo Amor	(Spain, Barcelona)	0 +1
41448	Jose Emilio Amavisca	(Spain, Real Madrid)	0 0
41541	Thomas Bleckl	(Switzerland, Vissel Kobe)	0 +2
41542	Christophe Bormin	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 0
41543	Sebastien Fournier	(Switzerland, Sion)	0 +1
41544	Marcel Koller	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	0 0
41545	Christophe Ohrel	(Switzerland, St Etienne)	0 0
41546	Ciriaco Storza	(Switzerland, Bayern Munich)	0 0
41547	Alain Sutter	(Switzerland, Freiburg)	0 +3
41548	Johan Vogel	(Switzerland, Grasshopper — RS)	0 +2
41549	Murat Yakin	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	0 0
41550	Alexander Comisatti	(Switzerland, Grasshopper)	0 0
41641	Oguz Cetin	(Turkey, Fenerbahce)	0 +1
41642	Abdullah Ercan	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	0 -2
41643	Tolunay Karakas	(Turkey, Trabzonspor)	0 +2
41644	Tagay Kerimoglu	(Turkey, Galatasaray)	0 0
41645	Keskin Korkut	(Turkey, Besiktas)	0 0
41646	Tayfun Korkut	(Turkey, Fenerbahce)	0 0
41647	Sergen Yalcin	(Turkey, Besiktas — RS)	0 +2
41648	Zafer Rahnin	(Turkey, Gencerbirligi)	0 +1
41649	Yigit Faruk	(Turkey, Kocaelispor)	0 0

NEWS

Tories shift their election strategy

The Conservative Party shifted its general election strategy radically by drawing up a battle plan which recognises for the first time that Tony Blair has changed the Labour Party.

The Cabinet approved a far-reaching new campaign plan drawn up by policy, organisation and advertising chiefs, which effectively scraps all previous strategies for attacking the Labour leader. Party sources admitted that previous attacks on Mr Blair had "failed to land punches". Pages 1, 10

Tim Henman beats 23-year jinx

Tim Henman became the first British man to win a place in the Wimbledon quarter finals in 23 years after beating Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 in a thrilling Centre Court match. He will probably play the American Number 13 seed, Todd Martin, tomorrow. Pages 1, 40, 41, 48

Train ambush

Three youths who ambushed a train near Bedford and tried to force schoolchildren to hand over their pocket money were arrested after a violent scuffle with rail staff. Page 1

BSE memo

The European Commission issued denials after the emergence of a six-year-old memorandum reporting an alleged decision by European veterinary officials to pull down BSE. Pages 1, 8

Ecumenical Blair

Tony Blair, a practising Anglican, has received communion in a Roman Catholic church, fuelling speculation that he might wish to convert. His wife, Cherie, is a Catholic. Page 2

Jump for joy

An RAF pilot could not resist joining SAS troops in a freefall parachute jump over Zimbabwe, a court martial was told. He abandoned his co-pilot. Page 3

Testing time

The biggest shake-up of the driving test since 1935 was launched when thousands of learner motorists sat down to the new written driving exam. Page 4

Doctors' secret

Two doctors hid the fact that a pregnant woman was dying from breast cancer from both her and her family, the General Medical Council heard. Page 5

Gazza makes it match of the day

Paul Gascoigne married his girlfriend Sheryl Failes with characteristic glitz, bolstered by a £150,000 contract with *Hello!* magazine. He arrived two hours before the civil ceremony at a Hertfordshire hotel, drinking champagne in the back of one of nine white stretch limos, and changed into a gold-embroidered frock coat. Ms Failes wore peach tulle. Pages 3, 17

Fairy-tale debut

John Hurt has been so impressed by a student's film script that he has agreed to waive his fee and play the lead character, a statue that comes to life when visited by a swallow. Page 6

Beef warning

Demand for beef may never recover fully from the BSE crisis, Franz Fischler, the EU Agriculture Commissioner, said when he was opening the Royal Show at Stoneleigh. Page 8

NHS waste

Harriet Harman announced plans to slice £100 million from health service management costs to improve patient care within the Labour Party's first year of government. Pages 10, 17

Somme memories

Thousands met at the Thiepval memorial in northern France to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the first offensive in the Battle of the Somme. Page 11

Weary Yeltsin

Looking tired and frail, President Yeltsin made a final appeal for reelection when the polls open tomorrow. Kremlin aides said he was getting over a cold. Page 12

Mongolia upset

Mongolia has voted surprisingly, and resoundingly, for the democratic opposition, ending 75 years of control by communists and their heirs. Pages 13, 17



Rain stopped play twice at the Wimbledon tennis championships yesterday but brought out a rainbow. Pages 1, 40, 41, 48

BUSINESS

United Utilities: Brian Staples, chief executive of Britain's first multi-utility, has received a 27 per cent pay rise, taking his basic salary to £300,000. Page 25

Economy: Britain's strengthening consumer sector helped to produce the first rise in manufacturing for six months. Page 25

C&J Clark: The family-owned shoe-maker is shedding 1,400 jobs in an attempt to become more competitive. The move comes in the wake of sliding sales and repeated boardroom upheavals. Pages 25, 29

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 14.6 to close at 3725.6. The mark rose by 0.4 to 3268.3 and the dollar closed at 1.5549 up 0.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 86.3 to 86.4. Page 18

SPORT

Tennis: On a day affected by rain at Wimbledon the top seed, Steffi Graf, and the No 4 seed, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, reached the quarter-finals of the women's singles. Pages 40, 41, 48

Athletics: Linford Christie will defend his 100 metres title at the Olympic Games in Atlanta. At 36 he is the oldest, by six years, of the probable contenders. Page 48

Cricket: Yorkshire took a 19-point lead in the Britannic Assurance championship when they beat Worcestershire by 111 runs with ten minutes to spare. Page 42

Football: The Government promised its backing, with money from the National Lottery, if England bids to stage the World Cup in 2006. Page 48

ARTS

Indestructible Tina: The veteran rocker Tina Turner launched her British tour with stunning energy and charisma at Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh. Page 32

Peterson returns: Despite suffering a stroke which limits the use of his left hand, jazz virtuoso Oscar Peterson was in triumphant form at the weekend. Page 32

Save the casket: "Even if the Victoria and Albert Museum makes a painful financial sacrifice in order to secure the Becket reliquary, it will be a price worth paying," Richard Cork writes. Page 33

Fresh air at Bowes: The Bowes Museum in County Durham has stirred up controversy by hosting a show of 35 avant-garde British and German artists. Page 33

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

STYLE
Sales strategy: the smart shopper's guide to classic and high-fashion bargains

INTERFACE
In our guide to new technology: your chance to win a Packard Bell PC worth £3,000

FEATURES

Twin goats: In the second part of Robert Crampton's interview, Terry Venables reveals his magic moments from Euro 96 and explains his coaching aims. Page 15

What price? Day Two of our series on the cost of living compares prices of the bare necessities from Rio to Rouen. Page 14

Yellow peril: Dr Stuttaford on diagnosing life-threatening jaundice in newborn babies. Page 14

Judicial review: David Pannick, QC, looks at how judges reach their decisions. Page 35

Poor law: The White Paper on legal aid will increase bureaucracy and make the poor pay more. Page 37

THE PAPERS

Negotiations in Geneva are stuck, but it is too early to give up on a treaty that would extend a nuclear test ban to the final "free" environment — underground, India, the lead spoiler of the talks, is now the single country most responsible for holding up the full benefits of a long-sought, valuable and all but completed international agreement — *The Washington Post*

LETTERS

Complaints about solicitors; waste in the NHS; Becket's casket; morality and faith; MPs' pay; Broadcasting Bill. Page 17

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Robert Lindsay and Isla Blair are a harassed manager and his frosty boss in a comedy pilot. *The Office* (ITV, 8.30pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on a disappointing journey through the Wild West. Page 51

OPINION

Under fire

Tory MPs who believe in strengthening Britain's defence should be defending this policy. Page 17

Mongolia revived

It is now a country that will welcome the international investment it sorely needs. Page 17

Marriage à la mode

If the bridegroom sets a fashion by wearing a gold brocade knee-length frock-coat, what should the best man wear? Page 17

COLUMNS

LIBBY PURVES

The history of the late 20th-century Labour Party is now being uncannily repeated in the history of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. An honest institution is being hijacked by extremism. Page 16

WOODROW WYATT

Devolution would mean there would never be another effective Labour government. A devolved Welsh assembly would result in the number of Welsh seats being reduced to 34, making it still harder for a Labour government to be elected. Page 16

DIANE KUNZ

Dole may advertise his war wounds but he avoids emphasising his war service, even though it stands in total contrast to Clinton's draft dodger tag. The explanation for this failure says little about Dole and much about the last taboo in America — the subject of class. Page 16

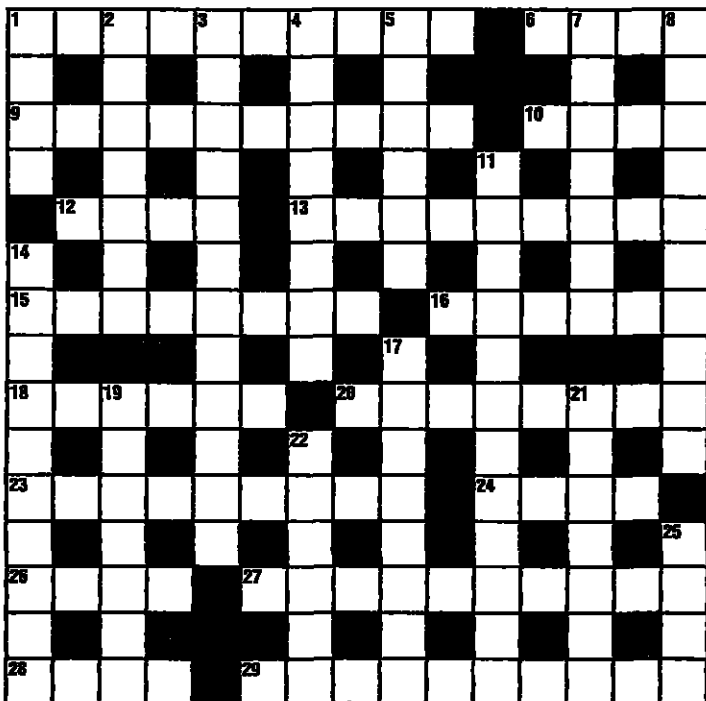
PETER RIDDELL

The Tories should ask whether Mr Blair's approach and instincts are shared by his party and whether his caution on making promises and public spending can be reconciled with the overall promise that new Labour could really change Britain. Page 10

OBITUARIES

Alfred Marks, comedian: Michael Wishart, artist and writer: The Right Rev Ross Hook. Bishop of Bradford. Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,209



- ACROSS**
- Warm outer covering enfolding Old Bill in bed (4-6).
 - Political group of leaders in Brussels launching original community (6).
 - Crookedness and underworld wrong-doing one's taking on (10).
 - Joint king born in France (4).
 - River sport (4).
 - One way to board a vessel with worker giving support (9).
 - Former spouse gave a parting ring and cracked up (8).
 - Keen artist backed to make an impression (6).
 - Tell the story of City during ceremony (6).
 - Fashionable, we hear, to have short ad — get agent to put one out (8).
 - Academic meeting was a drinking party (9).
- DOWN**
- Decline to produce fashion note (4).
 - Showed sadness after good times raised, in a style (7).
 - Unsatisfactory tale a hard-up brother, say, produced (4,8).
 - Placed when appeal to University is accepted in full (8).
 - Energy and drive one way to detect this self-seeker? (6).
 - Family business on decline (7).
 - Many abandoned staff in this difficult position (5,5).
 - Disaffection between dreadful sergeant and soldiers? Precisely! (12).
 - Stands for displays soldiers put on (10).
 - Right place in the field to follow heartless mercenary — such as this ruffian (8).
 - Match points are given after brief competition (7).
 - Altered arrangement that can drive machinery (7).
 - Fury arising from taunt in six-nil hiding (6).
 - Hero no longer active, reportedly (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,208

INCOME TROPICAL
RUI DE OH A
AURALLY PERIST
STILE B TAE
CHATTERBOX
I I I B B T
BULMARK AMAZING
L M I T S R
EXIGENT ENSLAVE
N N T E S E
DOCK MIDLOTHIAN
E S W E H N G
PANACEA FLORIDA
O S O K T R N G
TWENTY-THREE

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Code
Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wilt, Glouce, Avon, Soms	704
Bed, Herts & Essex	705
North, Suffolk, Cambs	706
West Mid & Sh. Glam & Gwent	707
Shrop, Hereb & Wales	708
Central Midlands	709
East Midlands	710
Leics & Humberside	711
Dyfed & Powys	712
Gwynedd & Clwyd	713
W. W. England	714
W. S. S. Wales & Dorset	715
N.E. England	716
Cumbria & Lake District	717
S.W. Scotland	718
Edin & Fife, Orkney & Shetland	719
E. Central Scotland	720
W. Central Scotland	721
W. W. Scotland	722
E. Central Scotland	723
Glasgow & E. Highlands	724
W. W. Scotland	725
Glasgow, Orkney & Shetland	726
N. Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Area with AA	Code
London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
Area with AA	732
Excess/Highways, Bucks, Berks, Oxon	733
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	735

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	Code
London	737
Wales	738
Wales	739
Wales	740
Wales	741
Wales	742
Wales	743
Wales	744
Wales	745
Wales	746
Wales	747
Wales	748
Wales	749
Wales	750

AA Roadwatch is charged at 30p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Hudders, 20C (68F); lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, Highland, 11C (52F); highest night temp: Southampton, Essex, 10.6C (51.1F); lowest night temp: Hudders, 10.2C (50.4F).

FLIGHT SAVERS

LONDON TO AMSTERDAM
from £69 return.

LONDON TO MADRID
from £54 return.

LONDON TO MILAN
from £139 return.

Phone for UK on 0345 665777 for contact with travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability, airport tax and other travel periods. Restrictions apply. Book by 21 July.

See *Yellow* p. 254.

See *Yellow* p. 254.

FORECAST

General: England and Wales fairly bright at first with a few mainly light showers. Through the morning, the cloud will thicken in the west and, in the afternoon, across all parts as rain spreads in by late evening. Cool, winds freshening from the southwest.

Eastern Scotland will be bright at first with thick cloud and rain soon into Northern Ireland, spreading to all districts by midnight.

London, Cent S, E, NW, Cent N: England, Midlands, Channel Is: Mostly dry with some brightness at first. Becoming more cloudy with persistent rain later. Wind W moderate becoming S to SW and in freshening. Cool. Max 16C to 18C (61F to 64F).

SE England, E Anglia: Mostly dry at first, bright or sunny spells at first. Becoming cloudier with rain later. Wind W moderate to fresh turning SW later. Cool. Max 17C to 18C (63F to 64F).

SW England, Wales, IOM, N Ireland: Cloudy with rain soon spreading from the west, becoming persistent and locally heavy. Later turning showery in places. Wind S to SW fresh becoming strong locally near gale. Cool. Max 15C to 16C (59F to 61F).

Lakes, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll: Mainly dry with some brightness at first but soon becoming cloudy with rain spreading from the southwest. Wind W to SW light to moderate increasing to fresh to strong. Cool. Max 14C to 16C (57F to 61F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Mostly dry and bright. Becoming cloudy with patchy rain in evening. Wind light and variable becoming moderate to fresh E later. Cool. Max 13C to 15C (55F to 59F).

Shetland: Dry with bright or sunny spells. Wind light NW becoming E later. Max 12C (54F).

Outlook: Cool. Unsettled. Showers, heavy and prolonged at times.

Pollen forecast: Scotland, northern England, N. Ireland, Wales, South West, London, lower Midlands, East Anglia, South East, low to moderate.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b = bright; c = cloud; dr = drizzle; ds = dust storm; du = dust; f = fog; g = gale; h = hail; i = rain; sh = shower; s = sleet; sn = snow; su = sun; t = thunder.

Glasgow	4.3	0.13	17	63	sh
Guernsey	8.7		19	66	s
Hastings	4.4	0.03	17	63	sh
Haying I.	6.5	0.26	17	63	t
Heme Bay	5.5	0.13	19	66	t
Hove	5.1	0.15	17	63	sh
Inverness	X	0.10	16	61	r
Stracombe	X				
Isle of Man	5.2	0.20	16	61	b
Jersey	8.6	0.07	18	64	b
London	2.8	0.08	16	60	sh

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area with AA

Excess/Highways, Bucks, Berks, Oxon

Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants

M25 London Orbital only

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways

London

Wales

Wales

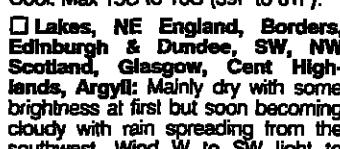
Wales

Wales

Wales

NOON TODAY

Changes to the chart below from noon: low J will rush eastwards and deepen Low M will push eastwards and also deepen High B will be slow-moving with little change in pressure.



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Contemporary artists flock to County Durham

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Should Parliament or judges decide on refugee benefits?

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Graf continues stately rise at Wimbledon

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY JULY 2 1996



Staples: 27 per cent increase

Executive pay bonanza at United Utilities

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

UNITED UTILITIES, the country's first multi-utility, has awarded its chief executive a 27 per cent pay rise and its chairman a rise of 24 per cent. Brian Staples, chief executive, is now paid a basic salary of £300,000, up from £235,000. Meanwhile, Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman, has had his pay increased from £250,000 to £310,000. Other directors have had rises of 13 per cent and 11 per cent. On top of the salary packages, the

directors will be eligible for further remuneration under two incentive schemes. One will make short-term awards based on the annual financial performance, the other will reward directors for performance on three-year cycles.

The long-term plan will link payments to total shareholder return, which will include the growth in share price and gross dividends. It also demands that the company's performance ranks in the top half of the FT-SE 100 and earnings per share

growth exceeds the retail price index by at least 2 per cent per year.

According to the annual report, Mr Staples received £142,000 in bonuses last year, of which £48,000 was a special payment relating to the acquisition of Norweb. Bob Ferguson, finance director, was paid a bonus of £32,000 for the takeover. Sir Desmond waived his right to a special bonus and received £76,700 in annual bonus payments.

The salary increases, high even by the standards of utility companies,

are defended by the remuneration committee as being in line with extra responsibilities assumed after North West Water bought Norweb, the regional electricity company, and became United Utilities.

In March, United Utilities said it would make 1,700 job cuts over the next three years on top of the 800 announced at the time of last year's merger. The company used the same announcement to reveal a 5.8 per cent increase in water bills and a 4.9 per cent increase in electricity bills.

John Baker, chairman of National Power, yesterday made a profit of more than £39,000 by exercising share options granted four years ago. He made a paper profit of £117,000 on options granted at 26p, and a £122,000 cash profit on 48,000 shares sold at 51p.5p. Brian Birkenhead, finance director, gained £208,000 with the sale of 54,331 shares at £38.816 and a paper profit of £69,390 on shares held at a 26p option price.

Pennington, page 27

Output rise may stall new rate cut

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S strengthening consumer sector helped to produce the first rise in manufacturing for six months. The news is likely to make Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, cautious about calling for a rate cut when he meets Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England tomorrow.

The latest survey from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing Supply showed that its index rose to 50.9 per cent in June from 47.6 per cent in May, the first sign of improvement in manufacturing since December. Any reading above 50 per cent indicates an expansion in activity.

A sharp increase in orders and output largely reflected a strong pick-up in demand for consumer goods which the institute put down to a combination of better weather and widespread discount promotions.

The purchasing managers' prices index fell to the lowest level seen since this survey began in July, 1991.

Peter Thomson, Director-General, said that he welcomed the return to growth but noted that it had been achieved by intense price discounting by suppliers battling to win business. "Weak order books are stilling activity amongst manufacturers of

Euro 96 may have boosted M0 narrow money supply in June, as fans from the Continent stocked up on sterling and heavy bets were placed on matches. M0 jumped 1.3 per cent, the biggest increase since September 1988. Its annual rate leapt to 7.3 per cent from 6.3 per cent. The lottery jackpot rollover may also have played a role.

plant and machinery, while consumer goods makers are enjoying a continued period of buoyancy," he said.

Ian Shepherdson, chief UK economist at HSBC Markets, said that if all the action was in the consumer sectors, it would

not be enough to lift manufacturing as a whole as production of consumer goods accounts for only 6 per cent of the total.

David Walton, of Goldman Sachs, said that he still expected official readings for manufacturing output to fall in both the second and third quarters.

Mr Walton said that yesterday's PMI survey coupled with separate news of a surge in M0 narrow money supply will probably prove sufficient to keep interest rates on hold when Mr Clarke meets Mr George tomorrow.

Before yesterday's figures, there had been speculation in the City that the Chancellor could push for another quick rate cut to help to end the stagnation in manufacturing industry.

But many economists still believe that subdued inflation, with industrial costs and prices expected to fall sharply, will allow Mr Clarke to cut rates again in the months ahead.

Further highlighting a picture of strengthening consumer demand were figures from the Bank of England showing strong demand for mortgages in May.

Net mortgage lending totalled £1.6 billion compared with £1.1 billion in April, the highest level since late 1994. Gross lending totalled £5.8 billion, up from £5.4 billion and mortgage approvals were also up strongly at £5.7 billion from £5.5 billion.

Adrian Coles, Director-General of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, said that these figures confirmed that banks and building societies have been seeing higher levels of mortgage lending since the spring.

He said that the recovery should continue and that rises in both mortgage lending and house prices would now become more consistent and less erratic than they have been in the recent past.

Consumer credit growth slowed in May when credit rose by £684 million compared with April's record increase of £1.1 billion. Economists said that this was unsurprising given disappointing retail sales in May.

Other figures from Dun & Bradstreet yesterday showed that the number of British business failures had dropped by about 16 per cent to 9,290 in the second quarter compared with a year ago.



Brian Ivory, chief executive of Highland Distilleries, describes the offer for remaining Macallan shares as generous

Highland closes in on Macallan

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

HIGHLAND Distilleries yesterday moved to snap up the remaining 49 per cent of the Macallan group with an £88 million cash offer which values Macallan at £180 million. Highland, which already holds a 26 per cent stake in Macallan, said the offer price of 152.5p is final, even though it is below Friday's closing price of 187p. Shares in Macallan plummeted to close at 158p, while Highland

shares rose 3p to 374p. Macallan said yesterday its board would meet soon to consider the offer, but with Highland having secured the backing of the other major shareholder, Suntory, the Japanese drinks company that holds a 25 per cent stake, Highland already has enough votes to take control.

Highland and Suntory will set up a joint venture to run Macallan, with Highland

holding up to 75 per cent of the share capital and Suntory continuing to own 25 per cent. Brian Ivory, chief executive of Highland, defended the offer price as "generous", saying it valued Macallan at twice the sector average. He added that Highland had informed the Macallan board of its intentions ahead of the bid but felt unable to negotiate an agreed bid due to the discount in the offer price.

Highland said the joint venture with Suntory cemented a strong trading relationship between the two companies and Suntory would continue to distribute Macallan in Japan. Highland acquired its 26 per cent stake in Macallan from Remy Martin for £47 million in January, at a similar discount.

Pennington, page 27

House prices show signs of levelling

By ANNE ASHWORTH

THE Halifax house-price index showed its first monthly fall for 10 months in June, slipping 0.3 per cent. However, the recovery is continuing, with sales and lending continuing to grow strongly. Prices are at their highest level since 1991.

The Halifax, Britain's largest lender with 2.5 million borrowers, said that it had expected some flattening off of prices after the sharp increases in recent months. It reported that prices were up 4 per cent over the year.

The Nationwide Building Society's index showed a similar result, with a 3.9 per cent increase since June 1995. While its findings showed prices rising 0.5 per cent last month, this is due to variations in its sample of borrowers.

Ian Shepherdson, economist at HSBC Markets, said that the fall in the Halifax's index should not be over-emphasised.

He explained: "This correction was bound to happen. Indeed I am surprised that it did not happen sooner. Supply and demand were out of kilter. There were many more people looking to buy than there were good quality houses on the market."

"Now people are seeing reports of house price rises and realising that it is worth putting their homes up for sale. This will slow the rate of price increases for the next few months."

"However, the recovery is still very much on track and prices will continue to trend upwards. We're sticking to our forecast that prices will rise 5 per cent and that transactions, the number of houses changing hands, will increase 15 per cent."

The Nationwide noted that house prices are now rising more quickly than the rate of general inflation, giving the first real price rise since 1989.

Factories shut as Clarks the shoemaker cuts 1,400 jobs

By JON ASHWORTH

C&J CLARK, the family owned shoemaker, is shedding 1,400 jobs in an attempt to become more competitive. The move, which sees factories closed from Devon to Cumbria, comes in the wake of sliding sales and repeated bedroom upheavals.

Some 330 jobs are to go at the head office in Street, Somerset. Factories are to close in Plymouth and Shepton Mallet, Somerset, with the loss of 320 and 400 jobs respectively. A further 245 jobs will be lost in Askrigg-in-Furness, Cumbria. Clarks continues to employ more than 13,000 people in the UK.

Tim Parker, chief executive since January, said the cuts were intended to provide the foundations for profitable



Parker: laying "foundations"

growth. He said: "Clarks has been chipping away at a few hundred jobs a year, but has never really got to the bottom of it. I think we've got a lot going for us at the front of the house. It was just in the back of the house that we weren't

organised in the most productive way." Mr Parker said the redundancies would cost "north of £10 million". Clarks made pre-tax profits of £24.8 million last year, on sales of more than £720 million, but the results masked poor performance in the footwear division, which spans brands such as Clarks, Ravel and K Shoes. Coopers & Lybrand, the accountant, identified over-staffing at the Street headquarters, which has been an administrative centre since shoe production ceased in 1992. It also indicated that the company would struggle to keep all its factories occupied. Clarks has been drifting since 1993, when shareholders narrowly rejected a takeover bid by Berisford International.

Street of despair, page 29

ADT accepts \$3.4bn takeover offer

By JASON NISSE AND RICHARD THOMSON

ADT, the Bermuda-registered security group chaired by Michael Ashcroft, has agreed to a \$3.4 billion takeover by Republic Industries, a fast-moving US conglomerate valued at less than \$100 million last August.

Republic, which has made 50 acquisitions in less than a year, is headed by Wayne Huizenga, the Floridian entrepreneur who founded Blockbuster Entertainment and Waste Management and now owns the Miami Dolphins football team. Since he took control the shares have risen 14-fold and the company's valuation by more than 2,300 per cent.

Republic is offering a complex formula of shares which values each ADT share at \$26, compared with a closing price of

\$18 on Friday. If the deal proceeds, the combined group would be worth \$5 billion and if it fails Republic will be given options on 15 million ADT shares, slightly over 10 per cent of the company.

Mr Ashcroft, who founded the company as Hawley Group 12 years ago, will be staying on as chairman and chief executive of ADT and will be joining the board of the enlarged company. His personal stake will be valued at \$112 million. The Republic offer should have no effect on the £250 million all-share bid made by ADT for Automated Security (Holdings), announced two weeks ago. ADT said that, instead of receiving ADT shares in the deal, ASH shareholders would be given Republic paper.

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2991, 2992, 2993, 2994, 2995, 2996, 2997, 2998, 2999, 3000, 3001, 3002, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3006, 3007, 3008, 3009, 30

Southern sells 25% of Sweb

SOUTHERN Company, the US utility, has sold a 25 per cent stake in Sweb, the regional electricity company, heightening speculation that it may be preparing for the acquisition of another UK utility.

The stake was sold to a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Power & Light for £121.5 million, and Southern may now move on South West Water, which faces two hostile bids from water companies.

Microgen rise

Microgen Holdings, the memory services and document services company, increased pre-tax profits to £4.57 million (£4.47 million) in the six months to April 30. The interim dividend rises to 2.4p (2.3p).

Beale boost

Beale, the department stores group, lifted pre-tax profits to £2.36 million (£1.85 million) in the 26 weeks to April 27. The interim dividend rises to 2.55p a share (2.2p).

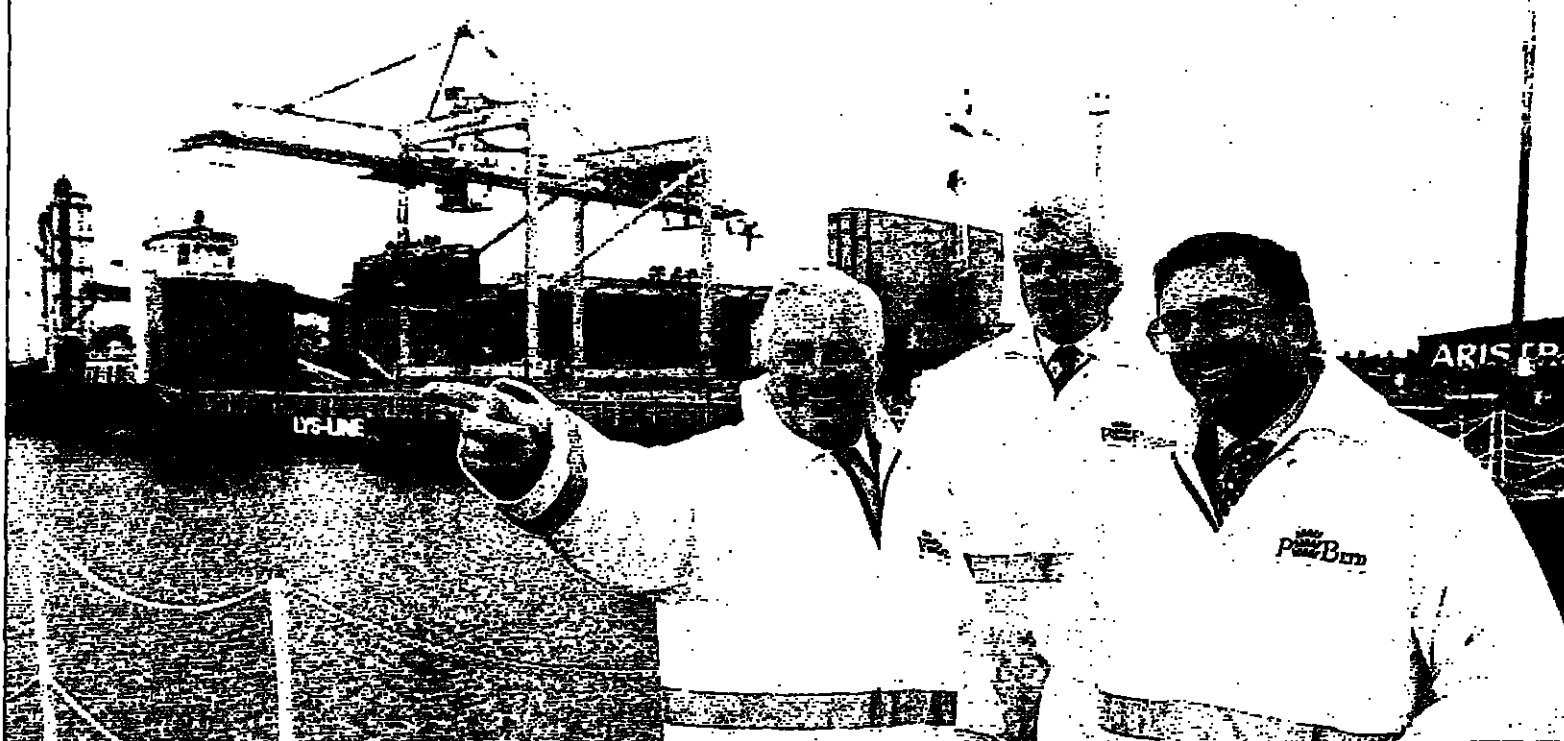
Phoenix return

Phoenix Timber Group, the timber treatment and flooring products company, returned to the dividend list for the first time since 1991, paying 0.2p a share for the year to March 31.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	9.07	1.01
Austria Sch	17.84	1.01
Belgium Fr	51.84	47.34
Canada \$	1.04	2.04
Cyprus Cyp£	0.761	0.768
Denmark Kr	8.99	8.99
Finland Mk	7.17	7.17
France Fr	8.40	7.75
Germany Dm	2.52	2.51
Greece Dr	389	361
Hong Kong \$	12.88	11.85
Ireland P	1.02	0.94
Israel Sh	5.38	4.73
Italy Lit	2498	2383
Japan Yen	164.50	168.50
Netherlands Gld	0.62	0.547
Norway Kr	2.804	2.574
New Zealand \$	2.41	2.19
Norway Kr	10.64	8.84
Portugal Esc	264.50	238.00
Spain Ptas	166.64	152.00
Sweden Kr	10.84	10.14
Switzerland Fr	2.07	1.85
Turkey Lira	130021	120221
USA \$	1.690	1.620

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Cleveland Trust, the industrial property investment company, is buying a 75 per cent interest in the Port of Boston in Lincolnshire for £465,000. Nick Ridley, left, the managing director of Cleveland Trust, and David Keynes, right, the chairman, are pictured with James Sutcliffe, chairman of Sutcliffe Holdings, the shipping company, which will own the other 25 per cent investment in the port.

Dassault-Aerospatiale merger plan unveiled

By Sarah Cunningham

THE FRENCH Government ended weeks of speculation yesterday by unveiling its blueprint for the merger of Dassault Aviation, the military aircraft maker, with Aerospatiale, the state-owned aerospace group.

The merger, a project which President Chirac has personally backed, will create a major rival to British Aerospace and to Germany's Daimler-Benz Aerospace.

The French Government said it intended to maintain a majority stake in the new

group but that it hoped to bring in outside shareholders as soon as possible.

By the beginning of January, it said, the technical, financial and industrial aspects of the merger should be completed.

In a brief statement, the Government did not give any details of the merger operation nor indicate who would lead the new company. But it said a number of industrial and technological areas in which the firms' activities complemented each other had been identified.

The French Government already owns 45.76 per cent of Dassault, maker of the Mirage and Rafale warplanes, and it has 55 per cent of voting rights. However, it has had to overcome the opposition of Serge Dassault, chairman of the company, to the merger.

He gave in finally last month after the Government apparently made clear its intention to force through a deal, if necessary, by nationalising Dassault.

M Dassault's resistance also appeared worn down by a

warrant for his arrest issued by a Belgian judge in connection with an investigation into a 1989 contract to modernise F16 fighter jets. He has denied any wrongdoing.

According to French newspaper reports, the Dassault family has negotiated to keep a 27 per cent interest in the new company. M Dassault has also lobbied for the presidency of a new supervisory board. The reports have helped to propel Dassault shares to record heights in recent weeks. They closed yesterday up 69 francs at Fr688, fuelled by local reports earlier in the day that the merger would go ahead.

The deal is part of a broader restructuring of the entire French military and civil defence capability to suit the post Cold War era.

The goal of President Chirac, who announced in February that he wanted the two companies to merge, is to build an aerospace and space group to rival its US competitors and be a driving force in Europe.

BT stands ground in Ofel battle

By Eric Reguly

BRITISH TELECOM, in its final response to the new regulatory package proposed by Ofel, reiterated its call for the right to appeal against the regulator's decisions on anti-competitive matters.

Unless the two sides reach a peace agreement, the package will be referred to the MMC. Ofel is due to respond to BT within two weeks. BT will then decide at a board meeting on July 23 whether or not to accept the package.

BT has more or less welcomed Ofel's proposal to make the new price cap — which will control prices for five years from 1997 — less tight, but criticised the attempt to insert a fair trading clause into its operating licence. The clause would allow Ofel to determine what constitutes anti-competitive practice and give it the power to force BT to cease such practices.

Ofel said it does not have the power to offer the right of appeal, but BT hopes current legislation can be altered, or new legislation passed, to allow such rights.

Pennington, page 27

Amstrad deal lifts Betacom

SHARES in Betacom, the phonemaker in which Amstrad has a 66 per cent stake, doubled yesterday to 29p when Amstrad confirmed it would transfer its loss-making consumer electronics business to the company (Jason Nissé writes).

The deal paves the way for Psion to confirm its £234 million offer for Amstrad, revealed first

in *The Times* a week ago. It gives Betacom three brand names — Amstrad, Sinclair and Fidelity. No payment will be made by Betacom and Amstrad will make 70 people redundant.

Norman Becker, Betacom's chairman, said under its aegis, Amstrad Consumer Electronics would be profitable

Tempus, page 28

SE to cut £53m in survival blueprint

By Robert Miller

THE LONDON Stock Exchange yesterday unveiled a blueprint for its survival, which includes cutting more than £53 million from its annual budget and reducing its workforce by nearly 400 to 550.

Fields Wicker-Miurun, director of strategy and finance at the Stock Exchange, said the medium-term business plan, which would reduce costs to £120 million, was intended to maintain the prominent place of London in the global pecking order of stock markets.

It was also a move to retain the market's present position of accounting for around 90 per cent of the worldwide trading in UK equities, she added.

In order to promote London as the best place from which to operate a broking business, Ms Wicker-Miurun said the stock exchange planned to extend its trading areas to include emerging markets and European Union and non-EU securities.

Delegations from the

London Stock Exchange have recently visited South Africa, India, Vietnam and China.

Ms Wicker-Miurun also said that the reforms, which should be completed within two-and-a-half years, would make "the entire market more efficient" and "transform ourselves into a leaner, more focused and effective organisation".

Future income for the Stock Exchange would come primarily from information, trading and companies, but that mix will change, she added.

In a bid to allay fears in certain quarters that the Stock Exchange and its policymakers were intent on protecting the interests of only the largest players in the market, John Kemp-Welch, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said: "Our role is to ensure and safeguard the long-term quality of our markets for all users. We must help our members and market-users to thrive and grow, by delivering the highest quality services at the most competitive prices."

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

British Gas to give pricing objections

BRITISH GAS will today deliver its objections to the regulator's price control plans for its supply division. Proposals from Ofgas would limit British Gas's household prices to the rate of inflation minus five percentage points from next year, meaning an annual cut of £8 on bills. The controls, which at present call for RPI-X, would last to the end of the century by which time full competition in domestic gas would be expected to remove the need for regulatory price control in supply.

Although the company and Ofgas are not as vehemently at odds over the supply controls as they are over the regulator's plans for TransCo, the pipeline operation, British Gas is expected to argue for more leniency. The controls would trim £60 million a year from supply. Meanwhile, British Gas is forging a joint venture with HFC Bank of the US to work on financial services. The company, to be called Golden Eagle, is likely to offer financial services as competition escalates.

Escom plans closures

ESCOM UK, part of the German computer manufacturing group, is to close 65 former Rumbelows branches, bringing 227 redundancies. Escom UK, which bought the 231-store Rumbelows chain from Thorn EMI last year, will employ about 1,000 people and have 168 computer shops after the cuts. It hopes about 90 of those who are made redundant will be re-employed. Escom UK said the decision to make closures had been taken by its management team and was unconnected with the parent company's DM120 million loss last year.

Coda losses hit shares

SHARES of Coda Group fell 48p to 157p yesterday after the computer products and services company reported losses of £3.7 million before tax during the six months to April 30, compared with profits of £1 million previously. Losses were 13.9p a share, against earnings of 2.7p previously. Again there is no dividend. Turnover was unchanged at £15.2 million. The losses reflected a sharp rise in administrative expenses to £18.39 million, up from £13.36 million last time.

Campaign criticised

A £12 million advertising campaign designed to help to reverse the fortunes of the cable industry has been described as ineffectual by the third-largest cable company. Dan Somers, chief executive of Bell Cablemedia, whose shareholders include Cable and Wireless, said it may have heightened awareness about cable TV and telephony but has otherwise "done nothing" to boost subscriptions. The campaign, launched in March, created by J Walter Thompson, and featuring Dawn French, the comedienne, is one of the biggest in any industry this year.

Hadleigh doubles final

HADLEIGH INDUSTRIES, the manufacturer of industrial storage tanks, is doubling the final dividend to 4p after enjoying a rise in profits to £1.8 million before tax in the year to March 29 from £837,000 previously, adjusted to reflect a loss on disposal and losses incurred by companies that were subsequently sold. Earnings rose to 17.4p a share from an adjusted 8.2p. The total dividend rises to 5.75p from 3p. The company had net cash of £1.6 million at year-end compared with £500,000 previously.

AT&T homes in on UK

AT&T, America's largest long-distance phone company, yesterday launched its residential service in the UK. The service will provide users with access to AT&T's national and international network by dialling a three-digit code before making the call. The company claims that its rates will be substantially cheaper than BT's. AT&T said it plans to offer other services, including mobile, multimedia and calling-card services, in an effort to build a £1 billion residential business in Britain.

Cinven buys radio unit

CINVEN, the venture capital company whose clients include the pension plans of British Coal and Barclays Bank, yesterday bought Philips Telecom Private Mobile Radio from Philips Electronics for £40 million. The company, based in Cambridge, makes and supplies mobile radio systems for "closed" user groups such as emergency services and the military. Cinven said it made the purchase because of its potential for international growth, especially in developing countries that lack a conventional telecom infrastructure.

Dalgety £14.25m buyout

DALGETY, the food group, has sold Dalgety Produce, its potato business, through a management buyout for £14.25 million. Proceeds will be used to reduce group borrowings. The business, with annual turnover of £100 million, deals solely in potatoes from seed through to pre-packed, operating in Shropshire, Herefordshire, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Perthshire. The buyout team, advised by KPMG Corporate Finance, was led by Alan Owens and Andy Behagg plus other members of the senior management team.

Associated Nursing dips

ASSOCIATED Nursing Services, the largest nursing home operator in London, reported pre-tax profits of £2.51 million (2.63 million), or 11.5p per share, in the year to March 31. The fall was caused by a change in accounting and severance costs totalling £479,000. Operating profits grew 9.3 per cent to £3.7 million on turnover of £15.2 million, up 21 per cent, as the occupancy rates and number of beds increased. The total dividend rises 10 per cent to 3.3p. A £20 million expansion will take the number of beds from 2,000 to 2,600 by the end of the year.

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION AND READER OFFER

Take a friend to a cricket match for 10p

Exclusive offer that saves you up to £6.90 on admission to county matches



To celebrate a summer of sport *The Times*, in association with the TCCB, is offering readers the chance to watch some great county cricket and take a friend along for just 10p — the price of *The Times* every Monday throughout this summer.

You can choose to spend a day at one of 78 Britannic Assurance County Championship matches listed in *The Times* yesterday. A selection appears, right. The offer runs from Wednesday July 17, through to Monday, September 23, 1996 inclusive. Each match is scheduled for four days and each game starts at 11am. Whatever game you choose to see you can be assured of a great game of cricket. And with our exclusive offer you can take a friend along for the day for just 10p when you buy one full-priced ticket.

Win tickets to see England v Pakistan

Today *The Times* and the TCCB is offering readers another chance to win a pair of tickets to one day of the England v Pakistan Cornhill Test Match at Lord's which starts on July 25. Plus our winner will also get a cricket bat signed by the England team, an England shirt, sweatshirt and baseball cap.

HOW TO ENTER
Call 0891 771 283 with your answer to the following question: What was the result of the last Test match between England and Pakistan at Lord's in 1992?
a) England won by two wickets b) Match drawn
c) Pakistan won by two wickets
The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by midnight tonight.
Calls cost 34p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times.

Home Games ("Denotes Sunday play")

DERBYSHIRE	At Swanton
At Derby	August 8 v Leicestershire
July 25 v Kent	Ticket price £5
August 1 v Gloucestershire	
August 15 v Nottinghamshire	GLoucestershire
September 12 v Warwickshire	At Cheltenham
September 19 v Durham	July 18 v Leicestershire
At Chesterfield	July 25 v Warwickshire
August 29 v Worcestershire	Ticket price £5
Ticket price £5	At Bristol
DURHAM	August 15 v Yorkshire
At Hartlepool	August 29 v Northamptonshire
July 25 v Essex	September 19 v Kent
At Chester-le-Street (Riverside)	Ticket price £5
August 28 v Glamorgan	HAMPSHIRE
September 12 v Gloucestershire	At Southampton
Ticket price £5	July 25 v Surrey
ESSEX	August 28 v Gloucestershire
At Chelmsford	September 3 v Glamorgan
July 18 v Nottinghamshire	September 19 v Nottinghamshire
September 12 v Sussex	Ticket price £5.50
September 19 v Glamorgan	KENT
At Colchester	At Canterbury
August 22 v Gloucestershire	August 15 v Worcestershire
Ticket price £7	August 15 v Somerset
GLAMORGAN	September 12 v Hampshire
At Cardiff	At Taunton
July 25 v Lancashire	August 29 v Nottinghamshire
August 22 v Kent	Ticket price £5.50
September 12 v Surrey	

HOW TO APPLY

You will need a total of four tokens from the six we will print in *The Times* this week. Token 10 appears below and token one was printed on the voucher in *The Times* yesterday. Tokens will appear every day until Saturday, July 6. Complete the details on the voucher and present it to the ticket office at the cricket ground you decide to visit with the four tokens attached. You will be entitled to buy one ticket for 10p when paying for one full-priced adult admission. The voucher can only be used for a one-day visit to one of the Britannic Assurance County Championship matches listed yesterday.



THE TIMES
TOKEN
TWO

TOMORROW: ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN TICKETS

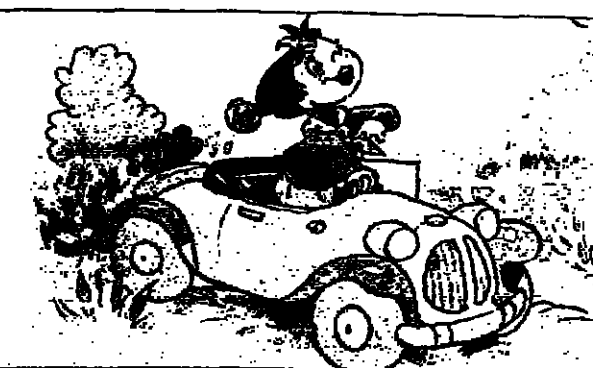
Radio for Noddy and friends

By Eric Reguly

CHILDREN love TV, and rarely, much to their parents' disappointment, listen to the radio. Two London mothers think they know why. Radio, unlike TV, simply does not cater for the imaginations and short attention spans of kids.

The solution: Troc FM, also known as London Children's Radio, an FM service with an intended audience, depending on the time of day, of drooling two-year-olds to streetwise pre-pubescent. Jane Curzon and Rikki Walker, the station's founders, say the children's radio market is wide open and have recruited the Trocadero Group to back their efforts to get it on the air.

Trocadero, which owns the Trocadero leisure centre at Piccadilly Circus and recently purchased the rights to the



Trocadero owns the rights to characters such as Noddy

characters created by Enid Blyton, the author behind Noddy and Big Ears, has come up with the £70,000 required to submit the Troc FM application to the Radio Authority. Deadlines for applications are on Tuesday and

good chance of winning. Ms Curzon said: "It's the only format that we're aware of that will expand the market in any way. Who else is going after two to 12-year-olds?"

Indeed, it is an idea that has not gone far in the past. Radio 5 experimented with children's programming a year or so ago but decided that pop music, not talk, is the only way to lure kids away from the TV. Ms Walker and Ms Curzon say the Radio 5 experiment failed because of lack of marketing, not inappropriate content.

Ms Curzon, speaking on a Mickey Mouse telephone, says Troc FM will target two to five-year-olds with "Wibble Wobble Wadio", while programming would get more sophisticated in the afternoon and evening, when older children are expected to tune in.

سكند من الاصل

□ Macallan chairman can only drown his sorrows □ Threat to watchdog's future □ City still awaits market it deserves

The dram busters

□ ALLAN SHIACH, chairman of Macallan-Glenlivet, enjoys a second life as an occasional Hollywood scriptwriter. An odd fact, that, but the speed and brutality with which his family firm was sold down the river should provide him with plenty of backstories for a high-finance blockbuster — not so much *Wall Street* as *Malt Street*.

There was nary a sign of a Macallan face at the City briefings by Highland Distillers, the purchaser. The deal was stitched up by the Japanese Suntory, which has agreed to sell its 25 per cent holding in Macallan into a Highland-controlled joint venture and remain as a passive investor while still handling distribution in the Japanese market. This triggered an automatic bid for the remaining 49 per cent.

Macallan was left considering its options, which are limited. The family hold 20 per cent and there are a few supportive institutions in there, but the new men in control can simply turn off the dividend flow. Life is never comfortable as a dissident minority investor, and the family will eventually have to sell.

A Highland strike was always inevitable, and it was always going to be expensive. The price is almost 30 times this year's forecast profits, but Highland is unlikely to rue the deal, which adds a Speyside single malt to its

stable of Highland and Islay brands. It brings Macallan's well-aged stocks to a company that only went seriously into single malts in the 1970s, yesterday in whisky terms.

Highland acquired its stake from Remy in January, at £52.5p a share when Macallan's price was in the 180s. The two are close — there is a cross shareholding and distribution links, part of a tangle of stakes that mean Highland will not itself suffer the indignity of a hostile takeover. Yesterday the outstanding equity was bid for at £52.5p, when the share price was again in the 180s. A strange situation, a hostile takeover bid at a discount to the market value. No wonder Highland shares rose.

The strike comes as whisky prices recover from several years of heavy discounting, caused by high levels of stocks and pressure from the big supermarkets. A whisky that sells at £8.99 a bottle is either a very poor one, or one sold at less than the price of production. For decent brands, £10 is the real barrier, and one crossed in the wrong direction by Whyte & Mackay in 1994. The

result was that the other good brands, Bell's, Teachers and Highland's The Famous Grouse, were forced to follow.

The damage has been repaired, and they are back grouped around the £12 level, which is where they like to be, after forcing through 4 per cent price increases at the start of the year. Whisky is again a profitable business to be in.

But it is also a remarkably relaxed one, and the shake-up Highland is delivering may be overdue. Hard to imagine the chairman of a big engineer moonlighting, say, as an occasional writer of romantic novels.

Regulators must be allowed to regulate

□ WATCH out for BT. Its behind-the-scenes lobbying threatens to shake up the very nature of regulation, and the consumer could be the loser.

BT is at war, as usual, with Don Cruickshank, the Ofcom Director-General. Mr Cruickshank has made some effort to broker a peace — his proposed



new price controls on BT's services are much less tight than the current ones — but he appears to be holding his ground on the competition clause he wants to insert into BT's operating licence. The clause would allow him, in effect, to be judge, jury and executioner on behavior he deems to be anti-competitive.

BT argues that such a clause is inherently unfair unless it comes with the right of appeal. Unless it gets that right, the company will probably reject the entire regulatory package, leaving Mr Cruickshank no alternative but to take the matter to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

It is easy to sympathise with BT's position, because the right of appeal in a democratic society

is no luxury. But BT is not an ordinary citizen. The company still dominates almost every sector in which it operates, and complaints about misbehaviour the latest from the cable companies, which have rightly accused BT of cold-calling their ex-directory customers to win them back — are common.

The real issue, however, is the future of regulation itself. Regulators exist to regulate. If BT is awarded the right to challenge Mr Cruickshank's every decision, then he would cease to be a regulator, becoming instead little more than a commentator. More important, if BT gets appeal rights it would be difficult to deny them to other regulated utilities. Could British Gas and water and electricity companies be far behind?

BT, of course, already has an appeal mechanism in the form of the MMC. Ofel and BT have used the MMC in the past, most lately to determine whether the Yellow Pages business was abusing its market position. It should be up to the MMC to decide whether Mr Cruickshank should be allowed to go forward with his

competition clause and, in the interest of consumers, the MMC should come down on Mr Cruickshank's side.

Exchange on the road to nowhere

□ THERE was a telling moment at the Stock Exchange's briefing designed to point the way to a more transparent, better-run market. Whatever happened to the report on corporate governance the Exchange's board commissioned, someone asked. All complete. Will it be released? Certainly not, said John Kemp-Welch, the chairman. You will only get to see the bits that are good for you.

Stripped of all the waffle, the Exchange's medium-term business plan shows some awareness of the problem and precious little idea where to go next. There is much about developing relationships and promoting markets, and sticking to core skills.

The authorities have reacted as any business would that was threatened by outside and more efficient competition. They have

slashed costs to bring them in line with falling revenues. The Exchange's problem is that it has stood still, and time and competitors have not. It is still a cosy cartel dominated by jocular insiders with an ill-defined regulatory role whose main concern is to exclude foreign securities houses rather than designing a game to win. Witness the mindless delays that have beset computerised share trading.

A decade after Big Bang, hundreds of millions have been spent and we still do not have a system for allowing one investor to trade with another on a variety of specialised markets adequate for the last years of this century. This is all anyone should want from a stock exchange.

Shocks all round

□ WHEN the corporate megamania that is United Utilities was born, we were all told of the obvious synergies to be gained by running a water and power company under one roof, which rather implies that this would be easier than running them separately. But no: it is now much more difficult, you see, so the directors need more money. A few more deals, and the company should be all but impossible to run, and the directors' pay really up in the stratosphere.

S&N gets a kick start after £308m at full time

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE European soccer championships have helped Scottish & Newcastle, the brewing and leisure company, kick off to a strong start this year. Brian Stewart, chief executive, said sales had increased throughout June — and with consumer spending set to improve in the UK and continental Europe, he was optimistic beer sales would remain buoyant.

Mr Stewart added that the integration of Courage, acquired for £550 million from Foster's last August, was running ahead of schedule and cost savings of £9 million had already been made. Scottish anticipates that cost savings will increase to £45 million this year reaching a total of £75 million a year by 1999.

Mr Stewart's comments came as S&N unveiled a 16 per cent rise in full-year profits before tax and exceptional to £308 million. The company made £151 million exceptional charges to cover the reorganisation of Courage, although the acquisition has been earnings enhancing.

The retail division increased operating profits 10 per cent to £157 million, boosted by a strong performance from managed pubs, where profits rose 16 per cent. But tenanted pub profits fell 5 per cent after the disposal of 230 pubs as part of the Office of Fair Trading requirements for the Courage takeover. But the company

insisted it planned no more disposals from its tenanted estate.

S&N added that it would concentrate on revamping 140 Chef and Brewer pubs, with an emphasis on food, and was looking to roll out nationally its youth orientated chains such as the Rat and Parrot.

The brewing division increased profits 48 per cent to £121 million, including a 37 week contribution from Courage. On a like-for-like basis profits rose 3 per cent to £85 million. Scottish said it has enjoyed a strong second half, with profits rising 9 per cent due to cost savings and a switch to premium brands. International sales increased to 400,000 barrels, with strong growth in the US and Europe.

Profits in the leisure division, which includes Centre Parcs and Pontins, fell 2.6 per cent to £86 million due to increased development costs and weak consumer spending in continental Europe. But the company reported an improvement in bookings, which should show through in the second half.

S&N added that its balance sheet position had improved, with free cash flow of £48 million. Total dividend is up 8 per cent to 19.43p with 12.88p final payable on September 2.

Tempus, page 28



John Randall wants to reduce MFI's dependence on the UK housing market

MFI plans more European stores

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

MFI, the furniture group, is considering an expansion into Spain and Portugal and plans to open up to 25 new stores in France this year.

The company, which yesterday revealed a 12 per cent drop in pre-tax profits for the year ending April 27 to £58.1 million, wants to lessen its exposure to the performance of the UK housing market.

It opened 25 new stores in France last year, making a total of 86. They made a profit of £1 million. MFI's first retailing profit in France in ten years of operating there. Derek Hunt, chairman, said the company will open 20 to 25 new stores in France in the coming year and was now researching the possibility of opening stores in Spain and Portugal. He said it was a natural progression. The company has also set up four

German retail partnerships in the past year.

MFI, whose managing director is John Randall, is recommending a final dividend of 2.9p, making a full-year dividend of 4.4p compared to 4.25p per share last year.

Profits were down because of a squeeze on margins due to a sharp rise in raw material costs in the first half of last year. The cost of converting many of MFI's UK stores into the new Homeviews format — with a different floor layout, better lighting and less warehouse space — also weighed on profits. It aims to convert all its 184 UK stores to the format in the next three years.

The shares rose 6p yesterday to close at 180p.

Tempus, page 28

Carlo share price falls on warning

SHARES in Carlo Engineering fell 29p to 263p yesterday after the specialist engineering company issued a warning that slower order books will knock first-half profits (Clare Stewart writes).

Ian Williamson, chief executive, said: "The order intake across the group is stable, but not growing at present."

Carlo also announced its results for the year to March, which were in line with City expectations. Pre-tax profits rose by 9.3 per cent to £18.2 million.

Earnings per share before exceptional items jumped 10.8 per cent to 20.6p.

The total dividend is increased to 10.75p a share from 10p, with a final 7.31p.

Tempus, page 28

Sunderland lands top job at Cadbury

By CLARE STEWART

CADBURY SCHWEPPE'S has appointed John Sunderland, 50, as its new group chief executive, to succeed David Wellings.

Mr Wellings, 55, announced his intention to retire in March. He will hand over to Mr Sunderland on September 9, just after the announcement of the group's interim results.

Mr Sunderland joined the Cadbury brand in 1993, when he was appointed managing director of group confectionery. He joined the group as a graduate in 1968 and has held a number of senior appoint-

ments, including commercial director of Coca-Cola and Schweppes Beverages, and managing director of Trebor Bassett Group.

A number of other management changes are expected. A spokesperson said they would be finalised by September.

Mr Wellings was Cadbury's highest-paid director last year, with a total package, including pension contributions, of £676,000. As head of group confectionery, Mr Sunderland has a £366,000 package.

City Diary, page 29

Restaurant group expects to incur first-half loss after BSE scare

Tough on Aberdeen Steak Houses

By CLARE STEWART

THE BSE scare claimed another victim as Aberdeen Steak Houses, the restaurant group, predicted a first-half loss for 1996. Worries about "mad cow" disease put diners off their steak, and for the fifth year running, the dividend is off the menu.

Despite much-improved results for 1995, Ali Saiti, chairman, said that the outcome for 1996 remained uncertain. But he said: "I believe there will be no permanent damage to the overall businesses."

With sites in popular tourist locations

across London's West End, Aberdeen is traditionally reliant on the second half of the year, coinciding with the peak holiday season. A manager at one of the Oxford Street restaurants said that business had now picked up, having been hit in April by the BSE scare.

Last year the group saw pre-tax profits quadruple from £541,000 to £2.21 million, with turnover up 18 per cent to £18.16 million. Earnings per share jumped from 2.2p to 11.6p. Sales were boosted by the opening of two new steak restaurants and the upgrading of a number of other

outlets. The 35-strong chain includes 24 Angus and Aberdeen steak restaurants, as well as two American Burger outlets. Other outlets include coffee shops and a new brasserie formal.

Shares in Aberdeen Steak Houses, which are traded on the USM, were unchanged at 36p. The shares are expected to trade on Oxfex when the USM ends this year. There was no hint yesterday whether Mr Saiti, who has close to 80 per cent of the shares, will move, as has been speculated, to buy out minority shareholders.

AND IF YOUR MIND clamps shut at the mere mention of the word million, consider this: If you add up your lifetime earnings — past and future — you will see that you will almost certainly earn a fortune in your lifetime. It could add up to a million pounds — or more.

The trouble is, like most people you'll earn it — and spend it. Of course, what you could be doing is taking this fortune and turning some of it into another fortune — the one you want to end up with.

But you'll probably say you've been too busy to attend to this yourself... or perhaps managing money today just seems too complicated...

Maybe you think you should entrust your money to an expert. If you do, you may be disappointed. The shocking truth is many professional fund managers are not much good at what they do. Most of them do more poorly than the Stockmarket as a whole.

The only certainty about letting others manage your money is that you'll let them help themselves to a chunk of it through their fees.

THE FACT the widely-accepted Random Walk theory says that you will beat the pros at picking shares by simply blindfolding yourself and sticking a pin in the share table to your newspaper.

Incredible, but true. Look at unit trusts. The vast majority of them underperform the Stockmarket in general over time. They would have actually lost you money compared to buying shares at random.

So the question is: Why pay fat commissions and "management fees" to have a so-called professional manage your money?

What about seeking advice from a financial adviser — someone who'll give you sound and impartial advice on what best to do with your hard-earned money. Well, you're going to have to look quite hard.

Firstly, most financial advisers aren't independent. They're not even allowed to call themselves that. That's because they're employed by the big financial fund managers to sell their products, and their products alone. They're really just salesmen.

So what about those who are allowed to call themselves independent financial advisers? Consider this last: most IFAs earn their living from commission from the products they sell. Yet some of the best investments are run by firms which pay no commission. How likely do you think it is they'll be on your IFA's shortlist of recommended investments if there's a commission-paying firm offering a remotely similar product?

But... let's face it... most people find today's world of personal finances too complicated — and too baffling. To short, they're stuck. They are successful in many other respects. But when it comes to investing and money management they have no real plan. All because there's been no simple way to get started. That is, until now...

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Douglas Moffitt, TV and Radio Financial Commentator

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"uncover" up to an extra £2,000 a year to invest — money you probably didn't even know you had.

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Third — And maybe most rewarding you'll learn in detail about a number of "crafty but simple" "behind-the-scenes" techniques that you don't usually get to find out about at all. The kind that can often boost your returns 20, 30, even 50 per cent more — sometimes just in months — not years.

FOR EXAMPLE, a little technique called a "straddle", lets you bet that the

Stockmarket will go up — and at the same time bet that it will go down — believe it or not, it is perfectly possible to make a profit whether it goes up or goes down!

Or how you can use your pension plan to turn £780 into £1,000 overnight — or more if you're a higher rate taxpayer. Of course there's a good deal more. But as you can see Successful Personal Investing is definitely not just some collection of "hot tips" or boring technical mumbo-jumbo.

Always everything is spelled out step-by-step, like a simple recipe. So you take just those steps that are right for your own circumstances.

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On this basis, please send me the first two lessons. I'll review them at no charge. Then, I'll either send back Lesson 2 — or pay for it only if I decide I want to continue. In any case I may keep Lesson 1 — free.

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Wall Street helps London to move further ahead

SHARE prices on the London stock market extended Friday's gains with the help of an early mark-up on Wall Street after the weekend break.

The FT-SE 100 index closed at its best of the day with a rise of 14.6 points at 3,725.6 as political worries receded. But turnover fell much to be desired, with just 606 million shares changing hands by the close. Fund managers were in no rush to open fresh positions at the start of the new quarter. The absence of any hard corporate news and the affect of the summer season kept them sidelined.

Among blue chips, BTR continued to hit new lows with a fall of 5p at 248.5p despite announcing its latest disposal aimed at repositioning the group. It is selling a 15 per cent stake in the company to Schrodor Ventures. The group has now raised £481 million from disposals this year, but that did not impress the City.

Glaxo Wellcome also rose 3p to 869p after raising £580 million from a disposal, while Thermo EMI slipped 3p to £17.91, having sold its security business for £61 million.

ADT, the Bermuda-based car caution and security group headed by Michael Ashcroft, put on a late spurt to finish 39.5p dearer at £15.50 after agreeing a \$5 billion bid from Republic Industries.

The terms value ADT at \$26 (£16.70). Only last month ADT agreed to pay £85 million for Automated Security Holdings, up 8p at 45p.

Shares of Macallan-Glenlivet, the whisky distiller, tumbled 29p to 158p after Highland Distillers of The Famous Grouse fame, teamed up with Suntory, the Japanese drinks giant, to bid for the remaining 49 per cent of the company they do not already own.

The terms of the offer are at a substantial discount to the ruling market price. Highland's offer is worth £52.5p a share compared with the 187p Macallan closed at on Friday.

The deal values Macallan at £180 million. In January Highland paid £52.5p for 26 per cent of Macallan. Suntory also has 25.2 per cent of Macallan and now both companies intend getting together to form a joint company. Highland, 3p dearer at 374p, does not intend to increase the terms.

MFI Furniture was marked up higher at 180p on



Center Parcs' contribution fell short for S&N, up 4p

the back of some positive comments about prospects and a 15 per cent surge in sales — its biggest since the 1980s. That has led to brokers increasing their profit forecasts for the current year.

Nick Bubb, retail analyst at Mee's Pierson, has increased his final numbers by £13 million to £77 million, claiming that the group should be

able to make savings of £75 million a year. Center Parcs saw its profit contribution fall.

A warning about a shortfall in first-half profits left Carclo Engineering nursing a fall of 29p to 263p. Last year Carclo increased pre-tax profits from £16.6 million to £18.2 million.

Shares of Richards Group were suspended at 24p while awaiting the publication of

accounts. The Stock Exchange said that yesterday's suspensions brought the number of companies whose shares have been frozen, so far, this year to nine.

The affects of "mad cow" disease are proving costly for Aberdeen Steak House, which is expected to turn in a first-half loss this time round with the outcome for the full year uncertain. As a result, the company does not intend to propose a final dividend. The shares were moved at 36p.

Betacom, the cordless telephone supplier, saw its share price double from 14.5p to 29p after it was announced that Amstrad was to inject its consumer electronics business into it as part of an internal restructuring. Amstrad, which is expected to be the subject of a £230 million bid from Psion, owns 66 per cent of Betacom.

The move is designed to make Psion's takeover of Amstrad, which is also shedding 50 jobs, rose 5p to 196p, with Psion climbing 60p to 410p.

Coda Group, the computer software specialist, fell 48p to 157p after plunging into the red last year with losses of £3.7 million against a profit last time of £993,000.

First-time dealings in Jasmijn, the electronics systems designer, established a useful premium on the Alternative Investment Market after a placing by Gerrard Vivian Gray at 88p. It ended at 96p, a premium of 8p.

GILT-EDGED: Prices fluctuated in narrow limits for much of the day, with early gains giving way to falls on the back of a stronger than expected rise in the US National Purchasing Managers' index to its highest level since February.

The Bank of England sold remaining supplies of the tap Treasury Index-Linked 2 1/2 per cent 2009 and also supplied Treasury Index-Linked 2024.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt rose £3.32 to £106 1/2 in thin trading that saw 36,000 contracts completed. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was £3.32 dearer at 99 7/8, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 lost a tick at £102 1/8.

NEW YORK: Confidence returned to investors on Wall Street on hopes that negative news on earnings had passed. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 24.75 points higher at 5,679.38.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 5679.38 (+24.75)
S&P Composite 473.01 (+2.38)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 22455.49 (+75.24)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 11002.61 (+18.29)

Amsterdam:
EEX Index 560.03 (+0.30)

Sydney:
AO 2245.10 (+0.00)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2384.00 (+2.61)

Singapore:
Straits 2291.53 (+4.68)

Brussels:
General 9331.70 (+55.25)

Paris:
CAC-40 2118.75 (+4.95)

Zurich:
SIX Gen 801.50 (+3.10)

London:
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TEMPUS

House buyers hold the key

DEKENT HUNT, chairman, was creditably cautious yesterday about MFI's 15 per cent increase in sales in the first nine weeks of this financial year. He admitted the company did not know why sales were up and had no idea if the rise would be sustained.

The company is making efforts to move away from its heavy dependency on the UK housing market by opening stores in France and by planning an expansion south from there into Spain and Portugal. But the UK, with its distressingly unpredictable house buyers, will remain by far the largest part of its business. Meanwhile, the expansion abroad is going to add to costs, and converting all of its UK stores to the Homevows format will also be expensive.

Capital expenditure went up from £36.7 million to nearly £60 million last year and the

company expects a similar level this year. Staff numbers are also rising because of the increased number of stores and a build up of manufacturing capacity.

On the plus side, although it is still a cyclical business — despite the company's efforts — conditions are now in its favour. Even if turnover for the year as a whole is up a more probable 12 per cent, profit will still likely to reach £30 million. And if 15 per cent growth turns out to be sustainable, then they are forecast to make it to £90 million.

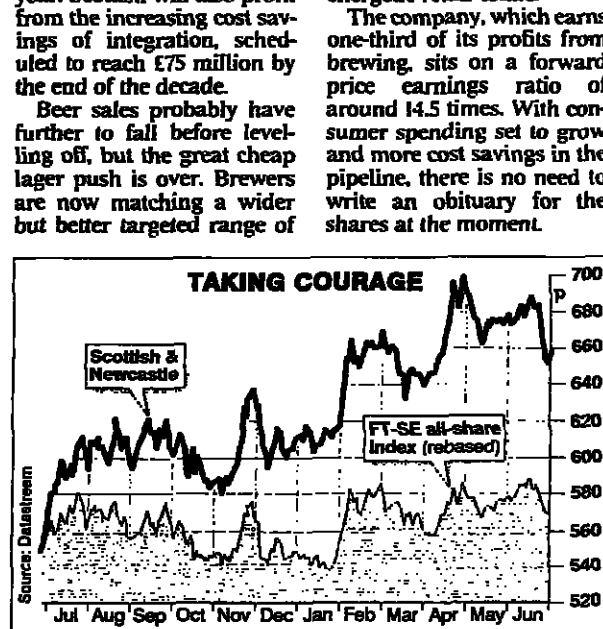
Sustainable or not, the good nine weeks will help interim profits, particularly as raw materials costs have come down from their 1995 peak. So, good results in the short term are in order; beyond that a lot more from MFI would wish still depends on consumer confidence and the domestic housing market.

S & N

RUMOURS of the death of Britain's brewing sector have almost certainly been exaggerated. The brewers have endured a rough ride over the past few years as beer sales have declined by about 2 per cent a year. The industry still faces further consolidation, once the complex hurdles to a Carlsberg-Tetley sale are finally cleared at some stage later this year.

But the benefits of the sector shake-out are beginning to trickle through into the brewers' profit column. Scottish and Newcastle led the way towards consolidation with the purchase of Courage last year. The gradual removal of excess capacity has enabled Scottish to begin to restore its badly bruised margins and the company remains optimistic that margins can be further

TAKING COURAGE



Amstrad

ALAN SUGAR may have pioneered cheap stereos and computers, but he is not known for giving away anything for nothing. Yet it is hard to see how his deal with Betacom to offload Amstrad Consumer Electronics does anything for Amstrad itself, except clear the decks for the Psion takeover.

Amstrad is giving Betacom three brand names, a load of stock and some supply contracts in the Far East. In return, it gets, well, nothing. Not even a contribution to the cost of the 70 redundancies which the deal causes.

Of course, Amstrad can argue it is getting rid of a loss-making business. But if it had made even half of these 70 redundancies a couple of years ago it would probably have turned the business around by now.

The fact is that David Potter, the chairman of Psion, does not want ACE and is quite happy to see it

Carclo

SO much for the "feel-good" factor and economic recovery. A warning of slower order books at Carclo, the specialist engineering company, yesterday knocked the shares and prompted analysts to trim forecasts.

Carclo's four main divisions each put in a solid performance last year. The

group has sold businesses that do not fit its niche strategy, accounted for reorganisation costs and beefed up its capital investment to improve efficiency.

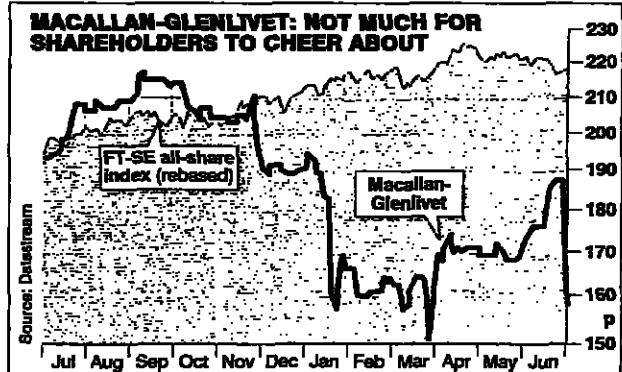
The impact is reflected in its stronger operating margins, up from 10.7 per cent to 11.7 per cent last year, and in its earnings rise of nearly 11 per cent to 20.6p.

Carclo sees strong prospects for growing its already sizeable business supplying textile combing mills. Acquisitions have helped strengthen its position as one of the two largest players worldwide, and it now has its sights on new markets in Asia that are making their mark in textiles. The automotive cable business has also been successful in winning new orders.

A marked profits recovery is expected from 1998 onwards as the benefits of recent investment feed through. The shares remain a long-term buy despite the current uncertainty.

able to maintain sales growth of 15 per cent a year. Full-year figures from Scottish & Newcastle, Britain's biggest brewer, lived up to City expectations and the shares were rewarded with a rise of 4p to 663p. Pre-tax profits were up from £265 million to £302 million before charges of £150.8 million relating to the creation of Scottish Courage, which is now expected to make savings of £75 million a year.

Waterhouse Group saw its shares suspended at 31p pending the late filing of its



delayed full-year figures. The group announced in May that it had come across a number of accounting errors that would lead to the company reporting a substantial loss. It is currently in talks with the bank about securing the required facilities to see it through.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Taking a livery at Barclays

LONG faces at the opening of Barclays first London-based private bank yesterday, situated only a few doors down from its global private banking arm at 54 Grosvenor Street.

After 15 years working together, livermen Denis Flaherty, 54, and John Taylor, 56, are being kept apart. They started out in the executive dining rooms at 54 Lombard Street, then both moved with Barclays to Royal Mint Court. In 1993, the double act changed into morning suits, and moved to 49 Grosvenor Street.

Yesterday, Denis was moved to the bank's new offices at 59 Grosvenor Street. John sighs: "We're still going to meet up for our ritual cup of tea - 150 yards won't keep us apart."

Personal view

NEDCOR SECURITIES in Johannesburg is distancing itself from a recent report written by analyst Michael Coulson in its London office, who painted a negative picture of South African Breweries, recommending that holdings in the stock be reduced. An embarrassed apology has been issued by the company and, according to Richard Laubscher, Nedcor group chief executive, the report misinterpreted developments in the South African economy, expressing "the personal views of the analyst concerned." To add to the confusion, the analyst shares his name with a well-known financial journalist in South Africa.



Peter Birch is to retire from Abbey National

Second place

A CONSOLATION prize for Charles Toner who looks out of the running for Peter Birch's job, when he retires as chief executive of the Abbey National in April 1998. The bank confirmed yesterday that Mr Toner, 54, managing director of the retail division, and a candidate for Peter Robinson's job at the Woolwich, will act as the bank's deputy chief executive until retirement.

Offline Tory

PAUL SYKES, the Yorkshire business tycoon and Britain's 72nd richest man, has mysteriously withdrawn as Tory candidate for the Labour stronghold of Barnsley Central only two months after his selection. According to the Conservative Association, Mr Sykes's Integrated Technology Europe and Planet Online Internet business is taking up too much of his time. But according to an unhappy Mr Sykes: "The truth is, I'm finding it increasingly difficult to keep the party line on Europe."

Brave step

JOHN SUNDERLAND, 50, who takes over from David Wellings as group chief executive at Cadbury Schweppes this autumn, was recovering yesterday from a "wild" weekend. The man who likes nothing better than to chew on a caramel Milk Tray was dancing the night away last Saturday in spite of a broken knee, celebrating his youngest son's 18th birthday.

MORAG PRESTON

Generation of 'grey power' is growing in significance

Philip Bassett on why business is rethinking its attitude towards older workers



His generation: Pete Townshend of The Who is an example for older workers

When Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan and The Who played at the weekend to 150,000 people in London's Hyde Park, these Sixties pop icons proved that they are not yet too old to rock 'n' roll. Business is slowly learning the same lesson, that older is not synonymous with useless; and today a range of blue chip companies, including Marks & Spencer, Whitbread, BT, Ford, IBM, Commercial Union, Midland, Peugeot and Unilever, will examine a new study showing what business is increasingly coming to realise is the value of older workers - the so-called "third age" group.

"If through unfair discrimination, by design or by accident, we remove older workers from the potential labour force, we reduce the capacity of our economy to grow, and we increase the load on younger and future generations," said Howard Davies, deputy governor of the Bank of England and former head of the CBI.

Bill Cockburn, chief executive of WH Smith, is adamant that getting rid of older workers simply because of their age is both foolish and expensive. He acknowledges that many companies faced with pressure to cut costs shed older staff first, but argues that it is a false economy and that the climate for such moves is in any case changing.

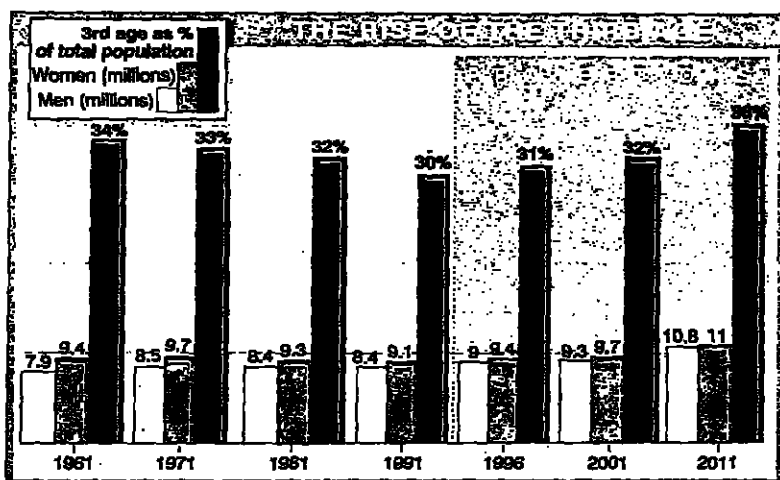
Mr Davies agrees: "It is salutary to note that in both France and Germany, many major employers are putting early retirement behind them as a means of downsizing and are looking at other ways of reducing capacity when they have to."

Today's study from the Carnegie Trust, drawn up in close co-operation with business, goes further. It says that Britain will need to create 1.4 million new jobs just to fund the pensions and benefits of those who are retired - and this at a time when the workforce is contracting, falling by half a million over the past five years, rather than increasing as the Government predicted.

Business leaders have come together this summer to create the Employers' Forum on Age, aimed at persuading employers to recognise the significance of age as an employment issue, and of both the value of older workers and the cost of getting rid of them unnecessarily - often, as Mr Davies points out, "by assuming that they can load the cost on to the pension scheme".

Fred Edwards, chairman of the Carnegie Trust's third age programme committee, says: "People in the third age provide us with an opportunity for a huge new injection of talent, wisdom and experience, provided we make use of them - instead of wasting them through ageist attitudes and stereotypes."

As the graphic indicates, in 1961 17.3 million people were third age - so called because they have completed their second age of conventional work and child rearing, but have yet to reach



the fourth age of dependency - according to the Government's Office for National Statistics. ONS projections, however, suggest that by 2001 there will be up to 19 million, and by 2011, after an even more rapid acceleration, 21.8 million.

Though the overall population is increasing - official projections suggest that it will be 59.8 million by the turn of the century and 61.3 million a decade later - the proportion who are third age is growing too: projected to rise from 30 per cent in 1991 to 36 per cent in the year 2011, driven by longer life expectancy.

This has a strong impact on a range of economic issues, including pensions and the ability to pay for them. At the same time, many companies have been restructuring by getting rid of their older workers, so that even though there are more older people, their economic activity rate - the proportion of them

participating in the economy - has steadily fallen over the past 25 years, and is set to fall further into the next century.

For men aged 55 to 59, for instance, participation rates are down from 74 per cent in 1995 to 69 per cent in 2006. And the recession of the early 1990s had already taken its toll, pushing down participation from 81 per cent in 1990.

Greater workforce flexibility has not helped third age workers, today's report suggests. Citing a 12 per cent fall in the employment of men over 65 just in the 12 months to last winter, the study says: "The impact on older workers, far from making it easier to enter the labour market, has been adverse."

Formally, the Government is sanguine. Looking at medium-term economic prospects, the Treasury said last year: "We might hope to see a gradual recovery in participation rates of older men, and hence an increase in potential

output, as each successive generation of 'older men' is less affected by the labour market changes of the last 20 years than its predecessors."

In an analysis of the labour market for third age in today's report, Chris Trinder, chief economist of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, and Richard Worsley, director of the Carnegie third age programme, are sceptical, suggesting "there appears to be more hope than conviction" in the Treasury's view.

Ian Holmes would agree. Two years ago, Mr Holmes found himself in his 50s, out of work, and apparently unable to find an employer who would hire him. Angered, he was instrumental in setting up in his home town of Bournemouth what he called a mature workers register, which sought to match available skills and experience with local business needs.

So far 500 people - most of them men, with an average age of 53 and an average unemployment behind them of 13 months, have joined the register, which is now funded by the Government's Employment Service and by Dorset Training and Enterprise Council. A total of 115 have found new jobs through the register, most of them with small firms, and most in wholly different lines of business, with a complete change of career direction. Mr Holmes says: "The register has shown that a real impact can be made on the problem of older people excluded from the job market. He would like to see it emulated in other parts of Britain."

Such "grey power" has a long way to go in Britain before it can emulate the lobbying force it commands in America, for example, where the third age vote is considered a highly significant electoral slice, and where many job CVs now explicitly exclude detailing an applicant's date of birth (although employers have become expert at decoding such political correctness by working it out from the dates of jobs held or qualifications gained).

But the strength of the age lobby is not being underestimated by business in Britain. Companies like B&Q have improved efficiency at some of their stores, such as the DIY chain's Macclesfield branch, by employing only older workers - and gained considerable positive publicity from doing so. Firms such as Marks & Spencer know from customer feedback that shoppers vastly prefer more experienced employees in some areas of the store - selling women's underwear, for instance.

John Monks, TUC General Secretary, one of the speakers at today's Carnegie report launch, says: "Older workers have skills, reliability and experience - qualities that employers should use, not lose." There is now probably a bigger head of steam in business on the issue of older workers than there has ever been in Britain. Key business leaders are convinced that British industry and services will have to shift away from its "oldest out" strategy of recent years - although older workers, feeling the pinch of job insecurity at least as much and maybe more than most are likely to remain sceptical until a good few more employers follow the B&Q route.

"Hope I die before I get old," The Who sang in 1965. As the Hyde Park concert showed, such hopes are long gone for them - and older workers will be looking for British business to reject such juvenilia too by fully embracing the coming of the third age.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Simple sums in a leap year

A n economist has been defined as someone who sees something working perfectly well in practice and immediately asks: "Ah, but would it work in theory too?" The propensity of economists to pore over abstruse equations and computer printouts instead of applying their common sense to the behaviour of their fellow humans, has rightly discredited their profession in the eyes of the public. Yet as the intellectual quality of economics has diminished, economists have been rewarded with wealth and power on a scale to which Adam Smith, Ricardo, or even Keynes, could never aspire.

Not only are hundreds of financial economists earning telephone-number salaries these days in the City and Wall Street. More importantly, the statistical gibberish disgorged by monetary models and inflation forecasts is now treated as holy writ, at least when these pronouncements issue forth from the economic oracles in central banks.

How can the world defend itself from the self-importance of economists, especially those that work for financial institutions and central banks? One way is to note the absence of simple common sense in the financial markets. Consider just three recent examples.

Last month, British economists were amazed by the weakness of the May retail sales figures, even though it was obvious to anyone who had spent that month shivering in rain-swept Britain that nobody was buying summer clothes. In two weeks' time, the analysts will doubtless be equally amazed by the rebound in retail sales.

In 1994, central banks around the world were tightening monetary policy to stave off commodity inflation. If the central bankers had talked to anyone in the London Metal Exchange instead of poring over their monetary contrails, they might have discovered that commodity inflation had more to do with a Japanese copper cartel than with the global money supply.

The best example of the markets' inability to deal with simple facts emerged just a few days ago. Last

month the Japanese Economic Planning Agency shocked the world by announcing that Japan's supposedly moribund economy had grown by 3 per cent between the last quarter of 1995 and the first quarter of this year. This astounding growth rate, equivalent to 127 per cent at an annual rate, was the strongest recorded in Japan since 1973.

However, the EPA quietly added that the GDP figure, though "seasonally adjusted", was not adjusted for the fact that 1996 was a leap year. Financial analysts shrugged this off as an irrelevant quirk, and went back to fiddling with their models to "prove" that Japan was now in a boom. There seemed to be only one, the resolutely irreverent Brian Reading of Lombard Street Research, who bothered to calculate the simple arithmetical effect of adding one extra leap day to the first quarter of 1996.

The result, published in a letter in last Friday's *Financial Times*, immediately solved the mystery of Japan's unexpected boom. Adding one extra day to the 60 normal working days in a quarter would increase GDP by 1.7 per cent. Even allowing for the fact that some service industries work 90 days in a normal quarter, rather than 60, roughly half of Japan's 3 per cent growth miracle was due simply to the leap year.

The day after Mr Reading spelt this out in his letter, the FT International Edition published a mocking rejoinder from the chief economist at Jardine Fleming in Tokyo. This was in some ways more interesting than Mr Reading's little discovery itself.

"Mr Reading's suggestion that more than half of the first quarter growth was due to the leap year was a bit much. Leap days are not introduced at short notice. If it was the leap day, why then did the leap day accountants not forecast the strong figures?"

I don't know who "leap day accountants" may be. But when it comes to economists I think I know the answer: an economist is someone who sees something that is obviously true in practice and says: "But is it true in theory too?"

Jon Ashworth examines the impact of changes at C&J Clark

Street of despair feels force of cuts

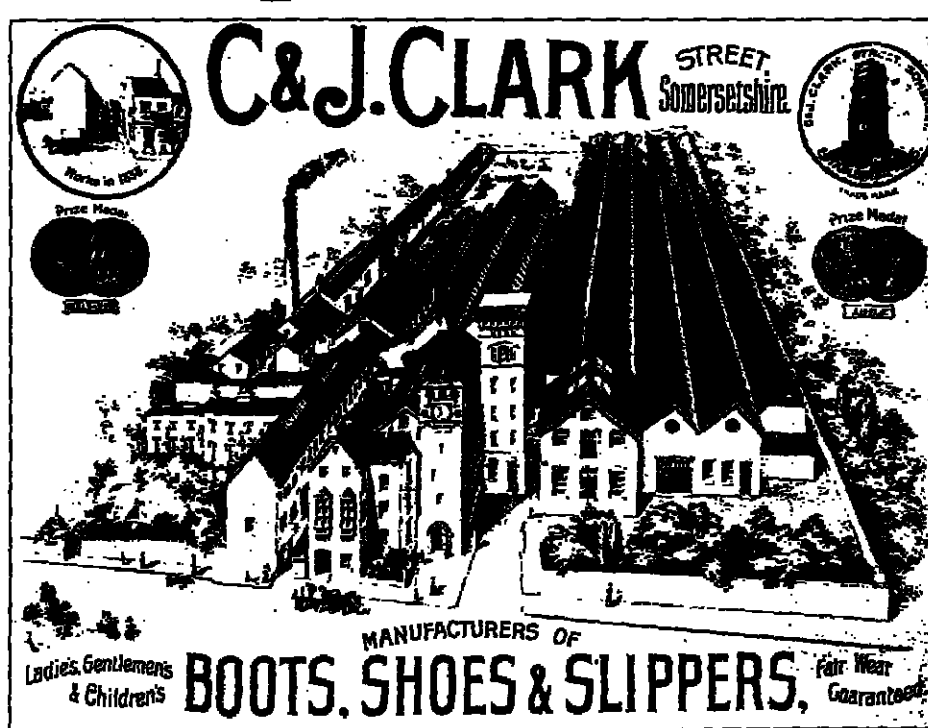
Drive down the "golden mile" in Street, Somerset, and it is impossible to escape the presence of C&J Clark, maker of Clarks shoes. The familiar Clarks emblem lines the shop windows. Shoppers make day-trips from South Wales, the Midlands, and even Tunbridge Wells. Clarks Village, an American-style factory shop, attracts nearly three million visitors a year.

But something is wrong in Street. Behind the shopfronts, the air is filled with deep foreboding. For each of the residents is connected in some way with Clarks, one of the last privately owned family dynasties in Britain, and the loss of even one job strikes deep at the heart.

Locals saw their worst fears confirmed yesterday when Clarks announced the loss of 1,400 jobs. Street will bear 330 of the cuts, all of them in the back office. Nearby Shepton Mallet is even worse off, with 400 redundancies, while 320 jobs go in Plymouth. The cuts extend to Cumbria, where the K brand factory in Askam-in-Furness is to close, with the loss of 245 jobs.

Michael Cooper, chairman of the Street chamber of trade, said the cuts were felt as deeply as in 1992, when Clarks closed its last factory in Street, ending a shoe-making tradition that stretched back nearly 170 years. The latest redundancies leave 800 people in the back office, and 400 in warehousing.

Mr Cooper said: "The tragedy is it's a one-company town. In the home counties, this happens to someone down the road or across the street. Here, it might happen to five people



The Clark business has been the mainstay of industry in Street since for 170 years

in the same road." Mr Cooper said the impact of the cuts had been spread more widely than the days when workers cycled 800 yards from their homes to the Clarks headquarters. Today, they are as likely to commute from nearby Taunton, Bridgwater and Shepton Mallet. Nevertheless, Clarks continues to dominate Street, which has a population of 10,000, and fears about the future remain. "There isn't much in the way of other employment," said Mr Cooper. "The older people are more stoic about it. It is the younger ones with mortgages and kids who are the worry."

Clarks remains one of Britain's largest privately owned companies, generating sales of more than £720 million a year. It employs more than 13,000 people in the UK, with seven main factories, and more than 600 shops, trading under the Clarks, K, and Ravel names. Most of the 1,000-strong Clark family can trace their lineage back to James Clark, who founded the company with his brother, Cyrus, in 1825. Gather the Clarks together, and one is struck by a distinct family resemblance.

Anger over growing losses at Clarks spilled over into a family feud in 1992, when rebel shareholders demanded the resignation of Walter

Dickson, the non-family chairman. Mr Dickson survived a stormy vote on the affair, but resigned a year later, after failing to win approval to sell the company to Berisford International.

Rebel family members, including Hugh Pym, the ITN reporter, argued that it would be better to wait for fortunes to improve, then seek a stock market flotation. The move had been tried once before - in 1989 - but was narrowly defeated by shareholders. Mr Dickson was replaced by Roger Pedder, a Clarks family member. John Clothier resigned as chief executive in 1994, clearing the way for Tim Parker, who became chief executive in January. Mr Pedder remains non-executive chairman.

Mr Parker, formerly with Kenwood Appliances, hopes that Clarks can now build on its undeniably strong brands. The redundancies will cost upwards of £10 million, and leave Clarks nursing a sorry set of financial results this year. The results will look even worse because last year's pre-tax profits, up 27 per cent at £24.8 million, were inflated by property disposals and pension holidays.

Mr Parker said: "We've got to get the costs and the exceptional out of the way. By biting the bullet, hopefully we'll have no more announcements like this." A stock market flotation is still the aim, although precisely when will depend on financial performance and market conditions. Mr Parker wants at least one clear year of results before proceeding. As before, the move would require shareholder approval.

The residents of Street, meanwhile, can take heart from the success of Clarks Village, which has created about 530 jobs, about 200 of them full-time, since it opened three years ago. Shoe shops mingle with High Street names such as Alexon, Royal Worcester and Thomtoms. Permission has been granted for another 27,000 sq ft of new units.

Retail success has been welcome, but what locals really desire is an industrial park. The land is there, they say, and could provide a solution for the entire area, including hard-hit Shepton Mallet.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY JULY 2 1996

Good gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES									
566	429	Alford-Brown	459	2	85	17			
567	430	Alford-Brown	460	2	86	18			
568	431	Alford-Brown	461	2	87	19			
569	432	Alford-Brown	462	2	88	20			
570	433	Alford-Brown	463	2	89	21			
571	434	Alford-Brown	464	2	90	22			
572	435	Alford-Brown	465	2	91	23			
573	436	Alford-Brown	466	2	92	24			
574	437	Alford-Brown	467	2	93	25			
575	438	Alford-Brown	468	2	94	26			
576	439	Alford-Brown	469	2	95	27			
577	440	Alford-Brown	470	2	96	28			
578	441	Alford-Brown	471	2	97	29			
579	442	Alford-Brown	472	2	98	30			
580	443	Alford-Brown	473	2	99	31			
581	444	Alford-Brown	474	2	100	32			
582	445	Alford-Brown	475	2	101	33			
583	446	Alford-Brown	476	2	102	34			
584	447	Alford-Brown	477	2	103	35			
585	448	Alford-Brown	478	2	104	36			
586	449	Alford-Brown	479	2	105	37			
587	450	Alford-Brown	480	2	106	38			
588	451	Alford-Brown	481	2	107	39			
589	452	Alford-Brown	482	2	108	40			
590	453	Alford-Brown	483	2	109	41			
591	454	Alford-Brown	484	2	110	42			
592	455	Alford-Brown	485	2	111	43			
593	456	Alford-Brown	486	2	112	44			
594	457	Alford-Brown	487	2	113	45			
595	458	Alford-Brown	488	2	114	46			
596	459	Alford-Brown	489	2	115	47			
597	460	Alford-Brown	490	2	116	48			
598	461	Alford-Brown	491	2	117	49			
599	462	Alford-Brown	492	2	118	50			
600	463	Alford-Brown	493	2	119	51			
601	464	Alford-Brown	494	2	120	52			
602	465	Alford-Brown	495	2	121	53			
603	466	Alford-Brown	496	2	122	54			
604	467	Alford-Brown	497	2	123	55			
605	468	Alford-Brown	498	2	124	56			
606	469	Alford-Brown	499	2	125	57			
607	470	Alford-Brown	500	2	126	58			
608	471	Alford-Brown	501	2	127	59			
609	472	Alford-Brown	502	2	128	60			
610	473	Alford-Brown	503	2	129	61			
611	474	Alford-Brown	504	2	130	62			
612	475	Alford-Brown	505	2	131	63			
613	476	Alford-Brown	506	2	132	64			
614	477	Alford-Brown	507	2	133	65			
615	478	Alford-Brown	508	2	134	66			
616	479	Alford-Brown	509	2	135	67			
617	480	Alford-Brown	510	2	136	68			
618	481	Alford-Brown	511	2	137	69			
619	482	Alford-Brown	512	2	138	70			
620	483	Alford-Brown	513	2	139	71			
621	484	Alford-Brown	514	2	140	72			
622	485	Alford-Brown	515	2	141	73			
623	486	Alford-Brown	516	2	142	74			
624	487	Alford-Brown	517	2	143	75			
625	488	Alford-Brown	518	2	144	76			
626	489	Alford-Brown	519	2	145	77			
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628	491	Alford-Brown	521	2	147	79			
629	492	Alford-Brown	522	2	148	80			
630	493	Alford-Brown	523	2	149	81			
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632	495	Alford-Brown	525	2	151	83			
633	496	Alford-Brown	526	2	152	84			
634	497	Alford-Brown	527	2	153	85			
635	498	Alford-Brown	528	2	154	86			
636	499	Alford-Brown	529	2	155	87			
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638	501	Alford-Brown	531	2	157	89			
639	502	Alford-Brown	532	2	158	90			
640	503	Alford-Brown	533	2	159	91			
641	504	Alford-Brown	534	2	160	92			
642	505	Alford-Brown	535	2	161	93			
643	506	Alford-Brown	536	2	162	94			
644	507	Alford-Brown	537	2	163	95			
645	508	Alford-Brown	538	2	164	96			
646	509	Alford-Brown	539	2	165	97			
647	510	Alford-Brown	540	2	166	98			
648	511	Alford-Brown	541	2	167	99			
649	512	Alford-Brown	542	2	168	100			
650	513	Alford-Brown	543	2	169	101			
651	514	Alford-Brown	544	2	170	102			
652	515	Alford-Brown	545	2	171	103			
653	516	Alford-Brown	546	2	172	104			
654	517	Alford-Brown	547	2	173	105			
655	518	Alford-Brown	548	2	174	106			
656	519	Alford-Brown	549	2	175	107			
657	520	Alford-Brown	550	2	176	108			
658	521	Alford-Brown	551	2	177	109			
659	522	Alford-Brown	552	2	178	110			
660	523	Alford-Brown	553	2	179	111			
661	524	Alford-Brown	554	2	180	112			
662	525	Alford-Brown	555	2	181	113			
663	526	Alford-Brown	556	2	182	114			
664	527	Alford-Brown	557	2	183	115			
665	528	Alford-Brown	558	2	184	116			
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667	530	Alford-Brown	560	2	186	118			
668	531	Alford-Brown	561	2	187	119			
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684	547	Alford-Brown	577	2	203	135			
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686	549	Alford-Brown	579	2	205	137			
687	550	Alford-Brown	580	2	206	138			
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689	552	Alford-Brown	582	2	208	140			
690	553	Alford-Brown	583	2	209	141			
691	554	Alford-Brown	584	2	210	142			
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693	556	Alford-Brown	586	2	212	144			
694	557	Alford-Brown	587	2	213	145			
695	558	Alford-Brown	588	2	214	146			
696	559	Alford-Brown	589	2	215	147			
697	560	Alford-Brown	590	2	216	148			
698	561	Alford-Brown	591	2	217	149			
699	562	Alford-Brown	592	2	218	150			
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701	564	Alford-Brown	594	2	220	152			
702	565	Alford-Brown	595	2	221	153			
703	566	Alford-Brown	596	2	222	154			
704	567	Alford-Brown	597	2	223	155			
705	568	Alford-Brown	598	2	224	156			
706	569	Alford-Brown	599	2	225	157			
707	570	Alford-Brown	600	2	226	158			
708	571	Alford-Brown	601	2	227	159			
709	572	Alford-Brown	602	2	228	160			
710	573	Alford-Brown	603	2	229	161			
711	574	Alford-Brown	604	2	230	162			
712	575	Alford-Brown	605	2	231	163			
713	576	Alford-Brown	606	2	232	164			
714	577	Alford-Brown	607	2	233	165			
715	578	Alford-Brown	608	2	234	166			
716	579	Alford-Brown	609	2	235	167			
717	580	Alford-Brown	610	2	236	168			
718	581	Alford-Brown	611	2	237	169			
719	582	Alford-Brown	612	2	238	170			
720	583	Alford-Brown	613	2	239	171			
721	584	Alford-Brown	614	2	240	172			
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724	587	Alford-Brown	617	2	243	175			
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726	589	Alford-Brown	619	2	245	177			
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728	591	Alford-Brown	621	2	247	179			
729	592	Alford-Brown	622	2	248	180			
730	593	Alford-Brown	623	2	249	181			
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733	596	Alford-Brown	626	2	252	184			
734	597	Alford-Brown	627	2	253	185			
735	598	Alford-Brown	628	2	254	186			
736	599	Alford-Brown	629	2	255	187			
737	600	Alford-Brown	630	2	256	188			
738	601	Alford-Brown	631	2	257	189			
739	602	Alford-Brown	632	2	258	190			
740	603	Alford-Brown	633	2					



POP

The indestructible Tina Turner turns it on in Edinburgh at the start of her British tour



JAZZ 1

In Glasgow the "spirit of Django Reinhardt" is stretched but intact

THE TIMES ARTS



JAZZ 2

Majesty and visceral energy: Oscar Peterson defies ill-health and passing years at the Barbican



BLUES

... while another of the great veterans, B.B. King, holds the Albert Hall crowd entranced

POP AND JAZZ: Veterans triumphant in Edinburgh and London; new talent on show at Glasgow's Jazz Festival

River deep, career endless

Tina Turner
Murrayfield
Stadium, Edinburgh

The phrase "stadium rocker" is a piece of contemporary music terminology which may be sent as a bouquet but is invariably received as a brickbat. But rare indeed is the ability to hunt, capture and tame an audience of tens of thousands in a venue in which binoculars should be standard issue. And it is all the more remarkable for a woman to do this in her mid-fifties.

But there are the laws of nature, and then there is Tina Turner. She is now 36 years into a switchback career in which record buyers acclaimed her and her former husband in the 1960s, forgot her in the 1970s, then not only remembered her in the 1980s but grew to view her as performance rock's first lady. This decade Turner has offered little fresh information, choosing to feed the fire not with new product or performance, but by prodding the warm coals of her previous work. With huge success, too, on the 1991 compilation *Simply The Best*, and *What's Love Got To Do With It*, the 1993 soundtrack to the story of her chequered life both with, and in spite of, Ike Turner.

This spring brought forth *Wildest Dreams*, Tina's first new studio record in seven years. With its wise choice of songs the erstwhile Acid Queen effortlessly resumed her reign, securing gold-plated promotional opportunities such as a James Bond movie theme and, just last weekend, getting to draw Britain's precious lottery numbers. This country offers few higher offices.

In addition comes the small matter of seven months' worth of European shows, of which this Scottish stadium date was the first of her British engagements. The set was built to similarly grand dimensions, filled with stairways, contorted light constructions and the requisite video screen, on which Turner made her first appearance. But *Whatever You Want*, one of the hits from the new record, was perhaps not the best fanfare as she strained to achieve some of the melodic extremes of this difficult song.

Turner was soon into her stride with a defiant *River Deep Mountain High*, while the screen offered images of the twenty-something lass who first delivered this fireproof



There are laws of nature, and then there is Tina Turner: the first lady of rock was in vintage form as she opened her British tour in Edinburgh

song. Her forthcoming single, a cover of John Waite's hit ballad *Missing You*, was warmly greeted and a glimpse into the way that she is sensibly and gently easing off the gas in the studio to welcome a more stately recording style. *Goldendays*, her Bond theme, was a visual landmark. The singer was elevated in front of a "ring of fire" blazing on screen behind her, with snippets of the movie adding impact as they did on her *Mad Max* entry and *We Don't Need Another Hero*. An "unplugged" interlude included a strong *Steamy Windows*, then *Better Be Good To Me* turned into a funk workout, outdoing its recorded version. And for the final encore, *On Silent Wings*, almost every pair of hands in the place was swaying. Indeed, her fans don't need another heroine.

PAUL SEXTON

Musician's musicians swing it

WITH no composer-in-residence to ensure that something tangible and lasting results from Glasgow's tenth International Jazz Festival, the current event is more than usually dependent on the enthusiasm and commitment of its thousand visiting musicians for its success.

The opening night's bill-toppers, Harlow-born guitarist Martin Taylor's "Spirit of Django" sextet, delivered both commodities in spades. Although ostensibly a "tribute" group inspired by Django Reinhardt, the band conforms to the stereotype neither in its line-up, featuring a saxophone and accordion instead of restricting itself to the string instruments favoured by the Hot Club, nor in its material. True, the band did begin with a Django-style Taylor original, *Chez Fernand*, infused with all the jaunty swing customarily associated with the legendary gypsy guitarist, but the underlying rhythm, a liltingly soft, almost subliminal shuffle by Taylor's son, James, on brushes, owed more to Brazil than Belgium. The soprano saxophone of Dave O'Higgins, snaking over the rhythm guitar of John Goldie and Terry Gregory's acoustic bass guitar, provided welcome textural variety, and his subsequent breezier contributions on alto and tenor lifted both band and audience. It was Taylor, however — consistently graceful, the clarity of his articulation near miraculous — who started, though the mature yet impish virtuosity of accordionist Jack Embrow, the quintessential musician's musician, came close to stealing the show.

The same evening, McEwan's Old Fruitmarket, saw another musician's musician, tenor saxophonist Michael Brecker, turn in a genuinely show-stealing performance the following evening. Since Brecker's blistering eloquence and technical command receive near universal respect, his sound

Glasgow International Jazz Festival

shaping a generation of saxophonists the way Coltrane's did in the 1960s, it is perhaps appropriate that he should be touring with the late tenor player's celebratory pianist, McCoy Tyner. Both Brecker and Tyner are passionately open players, ebulliently florid at up-tempo, romantically lyrical on ballads. Backed by Tyner's long-time rhythm section of bassist Avery Sharpe and drummer Aaron Scott they roused a capacity audience from the moment they hurled themselves into a typically grandiose Tyner theme, *Changes*. The emotional commitment demonstrated by Brecker, ranging from an affecting bruised dignity to a full, heart-on-sleeve verbosity, would have astonished those who persist in dismissing him as a formula player.

With the festival continuing until Sunday, and George Benson and the Mingus Big Band among others to come, a little pacing is clearly necessary.

CHRIS PARKER

Divine ruler measures up

Oscar Peterson
Barbican

THE world has long been divided into those who regard Oscar Peterson as the divine ruler of the keyboard, and agnostics who remain unmoved by what appears to be a surfeit of virtuosity, spun by the yard. Those of us in the latter camp had much to ponder after his quartet's display; that odd crunching noise, coming from the Barbican cloakroom was the sound of several hats being eaten.

What made the occasion all the more intriguing was the knowledge that Peterson had overcome the effects of a serious stroke. He has described how, in the immediate aftermath of the seizure in 1993, he was not even able to play a piece as simple as his *Love Ballade*.

For a player who has relied so heavily on velocity and unrelenting athleticism, the blow must have been doubly hard to endure. To see him now, 70 years old but still a bear of a man, make his way across the stage, his left arm held awkwardly and his left leg dragging, was a profoundly emotional moment.

The standing ovation at the end owed nothing to any patronising sympathy vote.

The reduced mobility in his left hand was certainly noticeable, but the prodigious work-rate of the right restored a sense of equilibrium. One result is that Peterson's solos have taken on a more emphatic, measured tone.

A more significant change lies in the balance of the group. In the past his partners have risked being swept aside by his express-train momentum. This time, with Niels-Henning Ørsted Pedersen on bass and the impeccable Martin Drew at the drums, there was greater space for extended dialogues between leader and rhythm section.

The player who shone brightest of all was Peterson's fellow-Canadian Lorne Lofsky on guitar. As well as shadowing the pianist's left hand and fleshing out the harmonic base, Lofsky pushed and prodded with intense liquid lines that were a startling contrast to Peterson's former partner, the self-effacing Herb Ellis.

CLIVE DAVIS

Blues and greys

B.B. King
Albert Hall

"THE last time I played here, some of you weren't born," said B.B. King as he looked around a packed Albert Hall. "In fact, some of your parents weren't born..." Well, it may not have been quite that long, but it was evident that a blues-playing king felt glad to be back at what he proudly called *The Royal Albert Hall*.

And it was clear, too, that the music hadn't really changed either. The trappings may be showbiz — silver lame jacket, eight-piece band that included two drummers — but that was all peripheral to the grey-haired 70-year-old who played and sang the blues with a commitment and passion that nearly 50 years on the road had not diminished.

There may have been nothing new, but that didn't really matter. From the opening blast of Louis Jordan's *Let The Good Times Roll*, through the emotional power of Eddie Boyd's *Five Long Years* to the brass-powered version of Little Milton's *We're Going to Make It* the songs were old favourites graced with the inventive and still-fluid guitar lines and rich vocals that first placed King on the throne.

There was a feeling that this

was an evening of old friends playing together — a mood reinforced when the brass section departed and Walter King, band member and nephew, brought on a chair for his uncle who, after a bad fall in the Eighties, is unable to stand for a long time. Nevertheless, King reminisced happily before sliding into a medley of *Why I Sing The Blues*, *How Blue Can You Get?* and *Rock Me Baby*, ending with the Jesse Belvin ballad *Guess Who*.

Then it was time for "one more tune". As the brass section returned King stood up and then launched into *The Thrill Is Gone*, a song which deserves its star status — it, more than any other, was the one which propelled King from the Black Theatre circuit into the American Top 20 and a role as a roving ambassador of the blues.

JOHN CLARKE

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■ VISUAL ART 1

Controversy and pleasure as the Bowes Museum in Co Durham opens its doors ...



■ VISUAL ART 2

... to a high-spirited show by 35 living artists from Britain and Germany

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

The superbly decorated Becket casket belongs in the Victoria and Albert Museum



■ TOMORROW

Daniel J. Travanti comes to the West End: Benedict Nightingale reviews *The Aspern Papers*



VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on a bizarrely successful blend of old and new in Barnard Castle; plus other shows

Curios and curiouiser

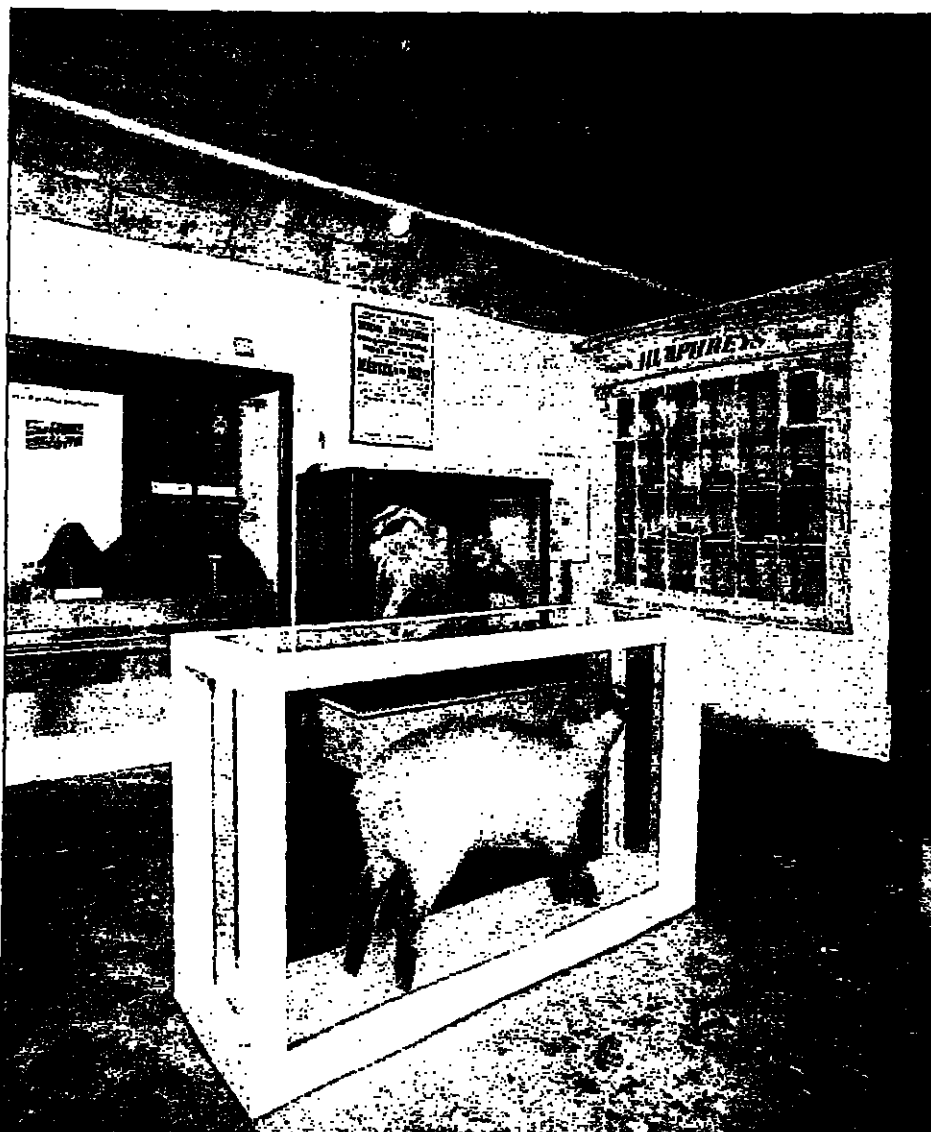
Opened in 1892, the Bowes Museum was an astonishingly bold and generous venture. Neither John Bowes nor his French wife Josephine lived to see its completion. But their generosity ensured that the colossal edifice, designed in the style of a grand French chateau, presides over Barnard Castle with resplendent authority. The collections inside embrace both decorative and fine arts, mingling the Victorian desire to educate with a quirky and voracious appetite for the bizarre.

During the past century the extraordinary profusion of objects has attracted intense loyalty among visitors from Co Durham and beyond. So the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds showed considerable nerve when it set about organising a contemporary art exhibition in these hallowed premises. Local suspicions were bound to be aroused, and some Bowes devotees are voicing complaints about the 35 artists from Britain and Germany who have invaded the palatial setting. Selected by Penelope Curtis and Veit Gerner, *Private View* is an unbuttoned affair. While responding to the character of the permanent collection, it does not hesitate to provoke, seduce, tantalise and subvert as well.

Part of the pleasure generated by this high-spirited escapade stems from its ability to ambush the viewer. We move through the lofty, crowded rooms with a heightened sense of wariness, as if on an ingenious treasure hunt. The temporary exhibits might be lurking anywhere, and can sometimes be confused with cleaning equipment or the abundant floral displays arranged by museum staff. Attempting to sort out the new from the old makes us look at the Bowes acquisitions with fresh eyes. The strange 18th-century mechanical swan, which jerks into gleaming motion and eagerly devours fish, could easily be seen as a surrealist sculpture. But its isolated place of honour in the entrance hall has been challenged, now, by the arrival of Eric Bainbridge's outsize *Package*. Swathed in white fur fabric, it looks like a frozen dwelling unaccountably stranded in the museum's marbled vastness.

Some exhibits relate far more closely to their surroundings. Damien Hirst's celebrated *Away from the Flock*, suspended in a tank of formaldehyde but still looking oddly jaunty, is placed next to a glass case containing a freak Siamese sheep. The exclamatory poster above shows how it was once exploited as a fairground attraction, a "marvel of the ages" which doubtless earned its owner a healthy income in admission charges. Its grotesquely distorted and multiplied limbs make Hirst's lamb look serene. Often accused of shameless showmanship, he understands the value of restraint and deploys it with absolute precision.

Thomas Grünfeld's exhibits use taxidermy in a frankly macabre way. His *Misfit* turns out to be a rabbit sprouting wings and a tail, the apparent victim of some gruesome genetic experiment. We smile and shudder at the same time, acknowledging that German artists are more willing than their British counterparts to indulge in shock tactics. Upstairs, for instance, the spookiness inherent in the Bowes building is dramatised



Damien Hirst's *Away from the Flock* (third version), 1994, at the Bowes Museum



Gillian Wearing's *Confess all on video. Don't worry you will be in disguise. Intrigued? Call Gillian...*, 1994

by Katharina Fritsch. Her *Ghost*, a shrouded white figure lit by a tall window behind, is accompanied by a plexiglass pool of blood be-smirching the tessellated floor. The classical statue on a neighbouring plinth seems unaffected by the phantom, but the glacial stillness of Fritsch's apparition is undeniably menacing.

Freestanding exhibits are rare in this stealthy show. Much of the Bowes Museum is filled with elaborate display cabinets, and *Private View* seizes every opportunity to undermine their cluttered 19th-century solidity. Richard Wentworth's *Rims, Lips, Feet* ends up looking both vulnerable and threatening. Covering a large sheet of glass placed askew on a tall cabinet, his plates look as if they might be dislodged by the slightest

touch. The resulting crash would shatter the room's silence, and it comes as a relief to find Coddie Johnson's *Twenty-eight Pitchers* safely arranged on stable shelves inside a locked cabinet.

Here, the pale and purged clay forms have ousted the permanent collection entirely. Elsewhere, though, the Bowes possessions are allowed to intermingle with the intruders. Mariele Neudecker's work is unpredictably installed, emerging in a showcase otherwise stuffed with an assortment of ornamental cutlery, cruets and vases. Her miniature *Landscape*, where three tiny explorers gaze down into the blackness of a crater, is juxtaposed with a bejewelled devotional image of the virgin and child. The conjunction seems haphazard at first, but ends up intensifying the sense

of strangeness which makes a visit to the Bowes Museum so enjoyable.

Both Curtis and Gerner look sober enough in their light-box photographic portraits, taken by Catherine Yass with her customary rigour and hallucinatory brilliance. But way humour abounds in the way they have displayed their chosen exhibits. Martin Honert's *Foto*, a lifesize sculpture of a forlorn boy sitting at a spartan table, is placed on a sumptuous oriental rug. Near by, the trick is reversed. Lavishly embroidered chairs and a gilded table find themselves resting on a patchwork carpet made by Jacqui Poncellet at her most exuberant.

The mood of mischief-making reaches its climax in the room devoted to Dutch paintings, where a cluster of stolid portraits are juxtaposed with Gillian Wearing's *Confess all on video*. Disguised by ludicrous masks and wigs, Wearing's volunteers mutter about their painful fantasies while the burghers of Holland stare down in apparent disbelief.

All in all, *Private View* makes an effervescent contribution to Visual Arts UK, the ambitious programme of exhibitions enlivening northern England throughout the year. Irreverent and yet continually mindful of its historical context, this delightful show stops short of disrupting the room hung with some of the finest old masters. Here, where Goya's madhouse scene and El Greco's impassioned *St Peter* prove unforgettably powerful, no contemporary artists can be found. Refreshed by the contrasts elsewhere, we can look at even the most familiar images in the permanent collection as though for the first time.

● Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, Co Durham (01833 660606) until July 28

AROUND THE GALLERIES

SCAFFOLDING almost covers the front door. The bare staircase leads into a large first-floor room frozen in the process of restoration. Drawings by some 17 different artists are on show here, in part of a private house. The invited contributors — who include Keith Coventry, Michael Landy, Cornelia Parker — may be a touch over-familiar, but the scale and non-arrangement of the work creates a sense of domestic delicacy rather than gallery bombast.

Kate Bernard, 20 Princelet Street, London E1 (0171-247 7347) until July 14

Simply framed, small, square, colour photographs by the photojournalist Melanie Friend hang evenly spaced around the walls at CameraWork. They are of sitting rooms, backyards, a

bedroom, an orchard, a gateway and an empty schoolroom in and around the homes of some of the two million Albanians who live in the Serbian province of Kosovo. Interviews with the people whose houses are photographed — taped accounts of harassment, even torture — play continuously. The straightforward juxtaposition of imagery with information is powerful, and perhaps more effective than more visually horrific documentation.

CameraWork, 121 Roman Road, London E2, (0181-980 6256) until July 27

The Canadian artist Martha Fleming has arranged an unassuming temporary addition at the far end of the

perfectly proportioned custom-built gallery at Dulwich. It is not instantly obvious that anything has been changed, or that the gallery has done anything "unconventional". Fleming has placed two objects in a glass cabinet: the camera obscura which once belonged to Joshua Reynolds has been borrowed from the Science Museum and displayed beneath the now faded painting of a *Girl with a Baby*, also by Reynolds. By quietly realigning these elements in this historic setting, Fleming begs questions about visual reference and retrospective understanding.

Dulwich Picture Gallery, College Road, London SE21, (0181-693 5254) to August 18

SACHA CRADDOCK

Igor Mitoraj, a Pole who now lives and works in Italy, is one of the most successful sculptors in the world, *John Russell Taylor* writes. In Bath until Sunday he has five large outdoor pieces, three in Queen Square, one in Beauford Square and one right in front of the Abbey. Together, they give a vivid sense of Mitoraj's private world, and his skill in making it public.

At first glance his Neo-Classicism is as smooth and direct as Canova's. But immediately one is aware of something that does not quite fit. Why does that centaur have tiny extraneous figures sprouting out of its chest, that winged female figure a slightly grotesque face where one might expect pubic hair? These are questions we all have to resolve for ourselves. Mitoraj refuses to be drawn.



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Fight to save Becket casket

Why the V & A should pay the price to keep this medieval relic in Britain

The brouhaha surrounding the Thomas à Becket casket reaches a climax this week, with last-ditch attempts to save it for the nation. To judge by some outcries, the export of the medieval reliquary would be as horrifying and unforgivable as the murder of Becket himself.

On the casket's richly ornamented side, a prancing knight is shown decapitating the saint with a sword. If a wealthy foreign collector makes the successful bid at Sotheby's auction on Thursday, he will be cast in the same role — a villain guilty of hacking away at Britain's heritage with dastardly relish. Unlike the headless Becket,

we would be able to survive such a loss. However keenly the Victoria & Albert Museum's director Alan Borg wants to acquire the casket, he could console himself by remembering the other superb medieval treasures already under his care.

For many decades the V & A has rejoiced in the possession of the exuberantly inventive Gloucester Candlestick, and the mesmerising 11th-century Adoration of the Magi wholebone carving. Both these objects show, in their distinctive ways, medieval art at its

zenith. They may also be English products, whereas the Becket reliquary was indisputably the work of a celebrated enamel factory in Limoges.

Even so, this astonishingly well-preserved casket has a strong claim on our national purse-strings. The gilt copper figures projecting so forcefully from their blue enamel background are handled with marvellous vitality. Their sprightliness, combined with the sumptuous embellishment of the reliquary as a whole, make it irresistible.

Any great museum would

be delighted to acquire such an attractive artefact, and its dedication to Becket's martyrdom does give us a compelling reason to keep the casket in Britain.

Another reason carries even greater weight. The savage vandalism inflicted on our own medieval religious buildings in the Reformation period has left us with pitifully little Romanesque and Gothic art to cherish.

Viewed in this light, the Becket reliquary seems still more desirable. Even if the V & A makes a painful financial sacrifice in order to secure the treasure, it will clearly be a price well worth paying.

RICHARD CORK

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LAW

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Gary Slapper on why judges and politicians are at odds over who makes the law and, right, a defence of the judiciary

Should the judges or MPs make the laws?

In the wake of the recent ruling by the Court of Appeal that the Government's withdrawal of welfare benefits from most asylum-seekers was unlawful, Peter Lilley, Social Services Secretary, announced that the judgment would effectively be nullified by new clauses to be rushed into its Asylum and Immigration Bill now before Parliament.

In the Commons, Tony Marlow, MP, voiced the views of several Tories when he said: "Do the judiciary now have a democratic mandate to decide which laws are acceptable, or does this House and Parliament, on the balance of views in the country, continue to decide what the laws should be, while the judiciary apply them without being informed by their personal prejudices?"

This constitutional clash between the judiciary and Parliament is similar to the recent conflict between senior judges and the Home Secretary over the desirability of Parliament acting to curb the sentencing discretion of trial judges.

Both disputes centre on the constitutional role of the judges. Even in fairly recent history, it was still widely accepted that judges did not make law but simply interpreted it: they construed difficult phrases in legislation, and they applied old common law principles to novel situations — but they never substantially changed the law.

Today that view appears naive and most commentators think that judges do play a creative part in fleshing out and shaping the law. The key questions now are when should judges become inventive and how far should they go?

Historically, when Parliament has become involved in any spat with the judiciary, it has been liberal and radical thinkers who have sided with Parliament while conservative thinkers have generally favoured the judiciary.

In today's confrontation, the opposite is true. Progressives are siding with the senior judiciary as guarantors of freedom while the Conservatives are championing parliamentary democracy in support of Michael Howard and Mr Lilley.

But should the principle of parliamentary sovereignty (part of the constitution since the Bill of Rights in 1689) be abrogated as a result of such an ephemeral and trivial battle between what some see as "bad politicians" and "good judges"?

The constitutional difficulties that need to be addressed in public debate now arise because the judiciary is an unelected and largely unaccountable body whose members carry no public mandate.

In cases that go to the House of Lords, for example, there is no reliable way of predicting whether the law lords will keep the old law and say any change must come from Parliament, or whether they will act boldly to alter the law themselves.

On what basis should judges be endowed with the constitutional right to protect public interests in the face of opposition from the manifestly democratic repository of power we have in Parliament?

Consider the institutional capriciousness of law-making in the Lords. In 1992, the House of Lords saw fit to abolish the then 256-year-old rule against a charge of marital rape. Lord Keith noted that "the common law is... capable of evolving in the light of changing social, economic and cultural developments". It followed, he said, that the old rule that forbade a charge of marital rape reflected the state of affairs at the time it was enacted in 1736, and should be abolished as "the status of women, and particularly of



An Ethiopian refugee at a protest in London against cuts in benefits for asylum seekers

married women, has changed out of all recognition in various ways."

But conversely last year the House of Lords shied away from changing the *doli incapax* rule concerning the criminal liability of children. The case involved a 12-year-old boy from Liverpool caught interfering with a motorbike using a crowbar. He was convicted of attempted theft.

His defence argued that "mischievous discretion" had not been proven, but on appeal to the Divisional Court, it was ruled that the antiquated rule (under which defendants aged 10 to 14 must be shown to know that their actions were seriously wrong before they can be convicted of a crime) was no longer part of English law. The Lords could have agreed and changed the law but did not do so.

Instead, Lord Lowry stated that judicial law-making should be avoided where disputed matters of social policy are concerned. He said: "The distinction between the treatment and punishment of child 'offenders' has popular and political overtones, a fact which shows that we have been discussing not so much a legal as a social problem, with a dash of politics thrown in, and emphasises that it should be within the exclusive remit of Parliament."

Yet in 1992, in another case, the law lords were in a law-making mood and decided to sweep away a 223-year-old constitutional rule that had prevented *Hansard* being consulted by law courts in aid of statutory interpretation. The specially convened enlarged Appellate Committee of seven could have ruled that changing the law was not something they were able to do, particularly as the case involved a controversial constitutional principle (Article 9 of the Bill of Rights — which prohibits the questioning in any court of freedom of speech and debates in Parliament).

But the committee decided that it would change the law, because "the time had come". Lord Griffiths, for example, said that "...I have long thought that the time had come to change the self-imposed judicial rule that forbade any reference to the legislative history of an enactment as an aid to its interpretation."

Again, conversely, in the case of the soldier Private Clegg last year, the Lords declined to make any changes to the law of self-defence, seeing that as something suitable only for Parliament. Lord Lloyd of Berwick approved the words of Lord Simon in an

earlier case: "I can hardly conceive of circumstances less suitable than the instant for five members of an Appellate Committee of your lordships' House to arrogate to ourselves so momentous a law-making initiative."

There is a reasonable body of evidence to illustrate the mercurial nature of the Lords as a law-making agency. One should be cautious, therefore, about relying on the Lords as a legislative vehicle. In the Commons, by contrast, capriciousness of law-making is forgivable, even desirable, because it is a democratic agency and its activity should reflect the will of a democratic electorate.

Dr Slapper is the Principal Lecturer in Law at Staffordshire University.

Don't let them be misunderstood

Last month, in a wide-ranging speech, Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Shadow Lord Chancellor, invited the House of Lords to debate the role of the judiciary in modern society. Lord Irvine criticised comments made in a lecture by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, that if Parliament did not legislate to introduce a right to privacy, then judges might develop the law in that direction. Lord Irvine contended that unless there were to be "a clear community consensus" in favour of a right to privacy (and he was sure there is none), for judges to act would "imperialise their major asset, their reputation for impartiality". Judges, he believed, should "think hard before they don the mantle of moral leadership through their judgments". Judicial statements about creating a law to protect privacy "sound to ordinary people uncomfortably like a judicial threat to legislate".

In 1932, Harold Laski wrote to tell Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the US Supreme Court that he had informed a High Court judge, Mr Justice Macnaghten, about Holmes's theory that, in hard cases, judges must "exercise the sovereign prerogative of choice", and so make law. Macnaghten had replied, indignantly, that "he simply applied the law, looking neither to the right nor to the left, and 'no damned nonsense' was going to change his judicial conduct."

Today most judges are more sophisticated in their understanding of jurisprudence. They know they are often asked to decide novel questions of law to which statutes and precedents supply no clear answer, or for which existing authorities offer conflicting guidance. Few judges continue to subscribe to the reassuring theory that the legal answer is always there, if only the judge is skilled enough to know where to look. As Lord Reid admitted in 1972, grown-up lawyers no longer believe in the "fairy-tale" that "in some Aladdin's cave" is hidden the key to correct judicial interpretation.

For the past 30 years, Professor Ronald Dworkin has been developing a theory of adjudication which seeks to provide a coherent explanation of the judicial function in hard cases. Professor Dworkin argues that it is the judge's task to adopt a principled solution that best fits with the structure and content of the law, as expressed in existing statutes, precedents and constitutional texts. What he thus describes as "the moral reading" of the law may result in liberal decisions, or in conservative decisions, depending on the philosophy of the judge. But each judge is obliged to comply

with an overriding principle of integrity, which confines and structures judicial discretion.

In *Freedom's Law: The Moral Reading of the American Constitution* (Harvard University Press, \$35), Professor Dworkin explains and applies his theory in an elegant series of essays, most of which were first published in *The New York Review of Books*, on difficult topics of constitutional principle. He analyses, with force and clarity, the rights of citizens in relation to abortion, euthanasia, affirmative action, libel and pornography.

He complains, with justification, that judges — and politicians — continue to pretend, at least in public, that, even in hard cases, the judicial function is mechanical rather than creative. He argues that only when we openly recognise that judges necessarily make contemporary judgments of political morality, albeit constrained by integrity to respect existing legal principles, can adjudication in hard cases be reconciled with democratic accountability. If the public understands what is being done on its behalf, then it has the opportunity to influence the development of the law by comment and criticism.

Although we lack a written constitution with an enforceable Bill of Rights, Professor Dworkin's analysis of adjudication in hard cases has much force on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. When judges are asked to decide a novel question about the right of the individual plaintiff to personal privacy, they are entitled to draw on principles to be found in the law of trespass, breach of confidence, and the European Convention on Human Rights. Such reasoning by analogy, with principles being derived from existing case law, is as old as the common law itself. It is the method by which judges developed the modern law of negligence and most of our administrative law.

To criticise judges for making a "threat to legislate", or for showing "moral leadership" when deciding hard cases, is fundamentally to misunderstand the nature of the judicial function. Whatever judgment the court reaches on the plaintiff's claim to privacy involves a choice between conflicting principles by reference to existing legal material. Professor Dworkin's latest work is recommended to everyone interested in jurisprudence, especially if they are likely to exercise responsibility for the administration of the judiciary in the next Labour government.

Dr Slapper is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



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Taking the biscuit

MARTIN MEARS'S campaign on spending at Chancery Lane took on a new urgency last week when he received the bill for the launch of his own election manifesto. It came to £68.21, to include £25 for the hire of a room in



Helen Matthews: barefoot lark

Carey Street — and the rest on water, tea and coffee. He protested about the refreshments.

Mr Mears recalls: "Six journalists attended — between them they could hardly consume tea to the value of £9.99, coffee to the value of £7.99 and orange juice to the value of £3.23. Five small bottles of mineral water were used but 20 were charged for at £1.10 each. "And why," he adds, "are we paying more than £1 for a small bottle of mineral water when the supermarkets sell two-litre bottles for 60p?"

Rubbing salt in the wound is that Rodger Pannone, the former president, who recently held a press conference at the Law Society, was not charged. "The reason given," Mr Mears says, "was that he was 'engaged in council business' — ie, rubbing the president of the Law Society."

Footloose

WHY IS Helen Matthews, marketing director of the London firm Davies Arnold Cooper, to be found standing by a pot plant and wearing no

shoes in a brochure for the *Who Owns Whom* directory?

Ms Matthews explains: "The designer was asked by the publisher, Dunn & Bradstreet, to envision the marketing leaflet for a useful but boring business directory. They certainly succeeded. I have had loads of phone calls asking why I am shoeless. "So why is she? The designer Paul Rodger of Bull Rodger says: "We wanted to make the pictures quirky."

● LORD Bingham of Cornhill, the new Lord Chief Justice, was officially introduced to the House of Lords last week. Not only is his promotion from Master of the Rolls to LCJ thought unprecedented, he was flanked, for the ceremony, by the present MR (Lord Woolf) and his own predecessor as MR (Lord Donaldson of Lynton) — another first.

Egos massaged

LAWYERS in private practice who rate work in local government as dull should look

at training courses being run by the Law Society's local government group. One new course is entitled "Sex Shops". It will cover licensing issues for the often controversial retail outlets.

The brochure explains proudly: "Local authority lawyers enjoy a varied workload, often with much more excitement than their private practice counterparts."

Fingered

A BARRISTER is gathering his own evidence about the use of fingerprints in court. Graham Cook, of 36 Essex Street, is worried that the standards of admissibility for such evidence are slipping.

He says that the traditional approach to fingerprint evidence — that there should be 16 matching characteristics between two sets of prints before they can be conclusively matched — has been modified so that a minimum of eight matching characteristics will do in some cases. Mr Cook says in the Criminal Bar Association's newsletter: "I know of no case where the point on reduced standard of admissibility has been taken on appeal."

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- European languages
- commercial awareness

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حسب ما في الأصل

Must justice be male?

Barbara Hewson is disappointed with the Home Affairs Committee report on judicial appointments procedures

In *Microcosmographia Academica*, the Cambridge academic F.M. Cornford expounds the Principle of Unripe Time: "People should not do at the present moment what they think right at that moment, because the moment at which they think it right has not yet arrived."

So it is with gender inequality. Senior judicial appointments are controlled by the senior judiciary. And our top judges do not want change. Sir Thomas Legg of the Lord Chancellor's Department told the Home Affairs Select Committee last summer that it was "just a matter of time" before there were "quite a lot of women judges".

When I came to the Bar in 1985, there were three women in the Family Division. Now there are three. If in 11 years the number of women in that division has not increased (and women are plentiful in family law), significant change is not on the cards. The reality is that there are hundreds of well-qualified women of sufficient seniority, more of whom could be appointed now.

The Home Affairs Committee's *Report into Judicial Appointments Procedures*, published on June 26, sides with the judiciary. It does not see a need for large-scale change to the judicial appointments system. It notes the extraordinary paucity of women in senior judicial positions (no women law lords, one out of 36 Lords Justices of Appeal, seven out of 96 High Court judges), and says that positive discrimination is not the way forward. But neither Canada nor the Republic of Ireland practises positive discrimination and both countries have significantly more women in their appellate and supreme courts than the UK.

group (the system of "secret soundings" whereby civil servants solicit views on candidates from judges and senior practitioners).

TMS said that "the system depends on patronage, being noticed and being known".

Sir Thomas does not like the term "soundings" because, he says, it suggests an "old boy network way of doing it". Let us call a spade a spade.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the recently retired Lord Chief Justice, told the committee that judges do not make contemporaneous notes about the performance of advocates appearing before them. According to Lord Taylor, a judge will perhaps say to his colleagues about a candidate: "I saw X the other day. He was absolutely super." Or, "I heard X the other day and I was very disappointed."

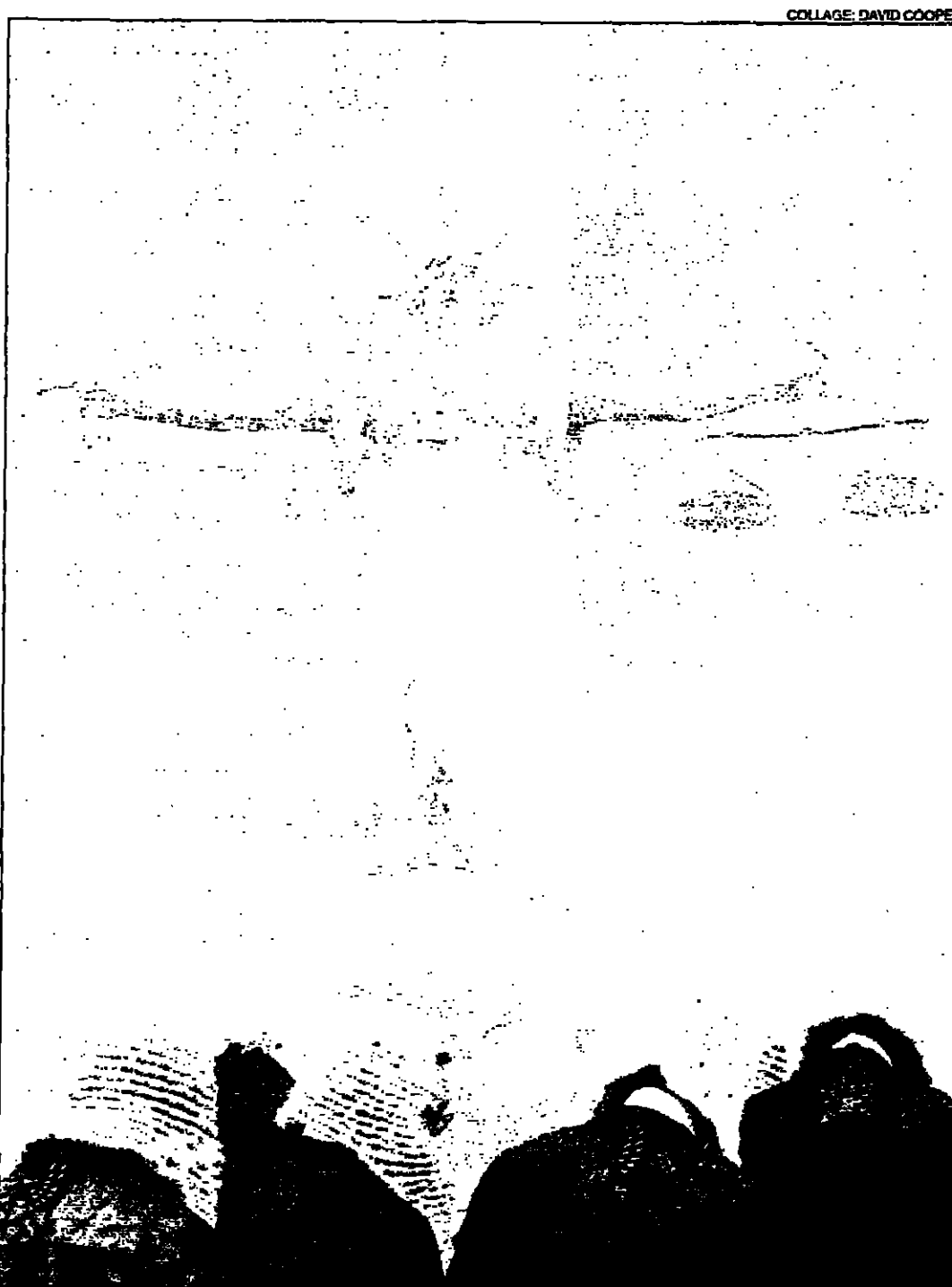
Yet the committee thinks the system of secret soundings should be continued and widened. It claims that this will help women because they do not belong to clubs. But how does the expansion of an old boy network help women?

The committee considers reforms to the judicial career structure to assist women and other disadvantaged groups. It rejects most of them. It fails to grapple with the problem of disparate impact that arises from forcing women into a rigid career structure, which does not recognise their family commitments.

It declines to consider the indirectly discriminatory impact on women of the requirement that High Court judges be QCs. (This is a serious omission because the proportion of women in the pool of QCs became stuck between 5.1 per cent and 5.8 per cent during 1991-95 and does not reflect the numbers of able senior women.)

The committee rejects the proposal that the posts of High Court judge and above should be subjected to open advertisement and competition. And it concludes that "there is now less cause for women to feel diffident in applying

The system of secret soundings should, the committee believes, be continued and widened



The image of justice is female—but the senior judiciary is still reluctant to appoint female judges

for judicial appointments." This is jejune. I could apply to become an Assistant Recorder, because I am over ten years' call and within the required age bracket. But I learn from the report that I am not really eligible because I must have 15 years of practice first. Am I supposed, in 2000, to

submit myself to scrutiny by a collection of mostly male consultants, described as "the professional community", most of whom I will probably never have worked with, or appeared before? In Sweden, a senior woman judge is suing the Government because, she claims, it appointed a

less qualified man to sit in the European Court of Justice. Brita Sundberg-Weitman, who is 62, wants her case to be referred to Luxembourg. As Cornford says, time has a trick of going rotten before it is ripe.

Legal aid White Paper will blame clients

Making the poor pay more

The Lord Chancellor's long-awaited White Paper on legal aid will be published today. Will it pave the way for improving access to justice, or will it subordinate public choice, operational consistency and access to justice to new layers of expensive bureaucratic management to tackle a problem that no longer exists?

The omens are discouraging. A Government bent on improving access to justice would surely not continue to give the impression that spending is out of control. It is true that four or five years ago spending on legal aid was rising at an unpalatable rate. But the budget has been underspent by £70 million in each of the past three years. This year's budget is £180 million less than the original estimate. Legal aid accounts for less than 1 per cent of public expenditure, hardly spending out of control. Recent interviews and speeches suggest that the Government has found a new villain. In the Green Paper, it was all the fault of greedy lawyers. Now, it seems, the White Paper will



blame irresponsible clients. The Government seems to believe that turning legal aid into a loan, and making unsuccessful litigants pay their opponents' costs, will promote responsibility.

There is a problem, in very few cases, of legal aid being granted in weak cases and continuing when it should be stopped. But that is the fault of the Legal Aid Board, which is responsible for granting and withdrawing aid, and of the Lord Chancellor for failing to introduce the measures that the Law Society and others have suggested to improve the board's decision-making.

The Government also seems determined to stick to its plans for regional cash limits. These will involve detailed planning of how many cases should be funded in each category in each area. A huge increase in administrative expenditure would pro-

duce a scheme that could not possibly have the flexibility provided by the present scheme. Whatever the Government's protestations, it would be bound to turn the availability of legal aid into a lottery. Spending is already targeted: each case is considered against detailed criteria. Introducing cash limits is relevant only to imposing a cap.


So what should the Government do? The first priority must be to restore financial eligibility, so that those deprived of justice by the 1993 cuts, which made all those above income support pay substantial contributions towards their costs, are brought within the scheme once more. Research commissioned by the Legal Aid Board shows that many of those eligible for aid are now unable to afford their contribution. The Government must ensure that contributions are affordable.

The Government will not improve eligibility without making offsetting savings. How can it find those savings? The Law Society published a package of proposals yesterday, including improving decision-making by the board, cutting the cost of fraud trials, reducing waste in the courts and introducing a conditional legal aid fund.

The Law Society's courts and legal services committee believes that the package would save about £130 million a year, enough to restore eligibility for at least eight million of the 12 million who lost out through the 1993 cuts. Our proposals would save expenditure and pave the way for better access to justice. A Government that cared about equal access to justice would join us in the search for constructive reforms rather than increasing bureaucracy and making the poor pay more.

DEREK SANDS

● The author is chairman of the Law Society's courts and legal services committee.



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Circuit Bench Appointments (JAD1)
Lord Chancellor's Department
Selborne House
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RUGBY UNION

Financial worries top Welsh agenda

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE leading Welsh clubs meet today, both in their own interests and as members of rugby union's European movement, hoping to establish a clearer view of their financial future and what money will accrue to them from next season's two-tier European tournament.

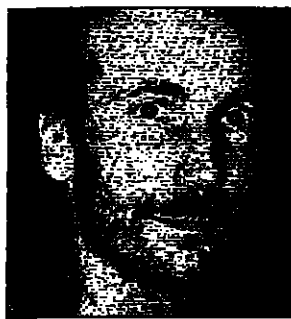
They are also preparing to thrash out significant issues with Vernon Pugh, the Welsh Rugby Union chairman, who has threatened to eject them from Europe if they do not comply with domestic qualifying conditions.

The clubs have been surprised by Pugh's outright rejection of the deal worth £40.5 million offered by BSkyB, the satellite television company that is 40-per-cent owned by News International, owners of *The Times*. "The only thing we know about the deal are the figures which have been quoted," Alan Meredith, spokesman for First Division Rugby Ltd, said.

The sum of £3.5 million a year would be around four times more than we now get and if this deal is to be rejected, is there a substitute deal somewhere along the line and how much will it produce for the clubs?

Trevor East, Sky's executive director (sport), hit back yesterday at allegations by Pugh that the company sought unwarranted control of rugby. "Our only condition is that certain sums of money should be ploughed into club rugby and the only thing we have asked for is the formation of an Anglo-Welsh tournament — that's why extra money has been allocated in the bid to the Welsh," East said.

SIMON BARNES



At Wimbledon

I have an extraordinarily long memory. I can remember when Steffi Graf was plain. She was once thought to be the plainest girl that ever swung a racket and, what's more, she was cordially hated by the Wimbledon crowds even as she pulled off the grand slam in 1988.

I also remember when Martina Navratilova was hated, for the same reason — for being unfeeling and invulnerable, a person of iron. In her later days as a singles player, she was loved for being precisely the opposite.

How long will it be, I wonder, before I am boasting that I remember when Martina Hingis won the sympathy of the Centre Court crowd by appearing so fragile, so defenceless? That I remember when Wimbledon felt sorry for her? That I remember the days before she became Hingis the iron-clad, the all-conquering queen, that I can even recall the distant days before she won her first grand slam?

I have a fancy that there is a thread that links these women: Steffi in the middle with a Martina on either side: women who represent past, present and future. Yesterday, Graf and Hingis took each other on at tennis. Graf winning 6-1, 6-4. Over the weekend, Graf, the central bead on the thread of time, was involved in a spat with Navratilova.

Graf has been playing this tournament with a white plas-

TENNIS: WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION DISPATCHES HINGIS AND SILENCES DISAPPROVING NAVRATILOVA

Graf lays low opponents past and present



Graf prepares to test Hingis with a backhand during her imperious straight-sets defeat of the young Swiss at Wimbledon yesterday

ter on her knee, one apparently designed to set off the gold of her legs. Yet she has a problem beneath it, apparently, one that caused her to pull out of the Eastbourne tournament. Martina is unconvinced. She said, on American television, that it was "an excuse ahead of time in case she needs it".

The Graf camp came back with the suggestion that Navratilova was speaking with the voice of midfiddom: she has yet to offer congratulations to Steffi when she equalled Martina's record of 18 grand slam titles. Or, to put this another way: "Nah, nah, nah, nah." Girls, girls.

Anyway, Steffi says they have made up now. "She didn't really mean it how she said it." So that's all right, isn't it? Graf is a forgiving sort: at least, once an injury has been averted. And Graf went on to court yesterday with an injury to avenge last May, in Rome, she played Hingis and lost. It remains the one blotch on her season, her only tournament defeat this year.

The reason was simplicity itself: Graf had gone over so slightly to lunch, distracted by the latest exploits of her dad. He had just been sent to jail for alleged tax evasion. Graf stepped on court with a



point to prove. She intimidated Hingis all right. She would have intimidated Mike Tyson. She reeled off the first four games in a dozen minutes, coming out of her corner in a bewildering explosion of punches that rained in from

all directions. It was hard not to go groggy — I mean, that forehead. Is it the finest in the history of the women's game? At times its power alone stuns you — but Steffi, rather unfairly, combines it with laser-beam accuracy. It certainly stunned Hingis.

Thus, Graf emerged from her encounters with a win on points over Martina Sr and a win by knock-out over Martina Jr. It all came together rather nicely to give us a still moment in the hectic pageant of sporting history. Navratilova is 12 years Graf's senior: she will be 40 in October.

Hingis is 12 years Graf's junior and, in September, will be old enough to go out and buy a legal packet of fags. She is still 15. The nicely-sculpted cheekbones make her look, in moments of concentration, a good deal older, but she sheds these bogus years in post-match prattle.

Still a child, but already one hell of a player and winner of more than a quarter of a million bucks in prize-money this year alone. Overwhelmed in the first set, she regrouped, regained nerve and timing and slugged it out all the way to the finish, saving a pair of match points on the way.

She is as convincing as various teenybop sensations before her were not. If she can steer between the Scylla and Charybdis of physical and psychological breakdown, she will grow into a champion, one to savour. Graf knows it, too: "In the last few months, the way she's improved. There is good chance she'll get closer to the top five."

I do not think she will stop there. Introduced to the circuit far too early, at the age of 14, she has this year begun to grow into the part. "I'm stronger," Hingis said. "Mentally, maybe I'm also better, just one year older."

However, it will take a year or two more before Hingis is capable of disrupting Graf's serenity. Standing between the falling and the rising Martinis, Graf looks untouchable.

'Navratilova was speaking with the voice of midfiddom'

able on the pinnacle. She stands in line for her seventh Wimbledon singles title and it will take something altogether exceptional to stop her. Her allegedly dodgy knee is simply not up to the task: she looked as wonderfully athletic as ever yesterday — by the way, how can you play a forehand with such power when adjusting your shot by jumping backwards?

Monica Seles came to Wimbledon as her main rival, but, carrying a shoulder injury, far too many pounds and heaven knows what psychological baggage after the dreadful stabbing incident of 1993, she found both the task and the occasion beyond her.

In truth, with Steffi, as with all great champions, the real opponent carries not a racket but a scythe and his name is Time. That was the gentleman that finished Navratilova's career and he will do the same for Graf — but I fancy that Hingis will be there to help him in his work, when the day comes.

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حکومت الراحل

EXCLUSIVE: THE FIRST EXTRACTS FROM TERRY VENABLES'S NEW BOOK. TODAY: THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE A PLAYER GREAT

A measure of true greatness

BY TERRY VENABLES

Today Terry Venables opens his forthcoming book, *The Best Game in the World*, to *The Times*. His account of Euro 96 will follow later this month as soon as he has finished writing it

What makes a great player? Come to that, how do you assess the ability of any footballer, good, bad or indifferent? Is it just a matter of opinion based on experience, or is there actually a formula that could make the whole process a little more scientific and a little more accurate? I happen to think there is, because I was one of a number of people who worked hard to find it.

In the summer of 1985, after England had played Brazil, Sweden and Japan in the Umbro Cup, I took part in a brainstorming session in the United States. It was organised by Umbro, the sports-wear company. They invited Pelé, Louis van Gaal, the Ajax coach, Shu Kamo, Japan's coach, Peter Gooding, of the American coaching association, and myself.

It was a kind of think-tank designed to come up with a vision of the game in ten years' time. The idea was to find ways of maintaining football's massive, worldwide popularity and one of the things that emerged was a way of assessing the ability of footballers. We actually got a formula down on paper. It comes in four parts: technical, tactical, personality and pace. Those headings, I think, cover all the ingredients required to make a good player, and you give marks out of ten for each section. Basically, you are looking for a pass mark of 32 points out of 40.

My co-writer, Colin Malam, and I tried the system out using Tom Finney as a test case, and the old Preston Plumber came out of it with a remarkable 37 points, the highest mark I could recall up to then. Tottenham's Darren Anderson, with 35 points, also did particularly well.

I used a very similar system when I was a club manager. I wanted them on the 33/34 mark if I was going to spend a lot of money on a player, and I don't think I made too many mistakes over the 18 or 19 years I did it, provided I had the time to apply my own little test of quality. If you look back at the big buys I made, Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker, for instance, I don't think many were too far out. I'm not being big-headed in saying that. I'm simply trying to establish that here is a system for measuring the ability of footballers, quite a difficult thing to do, with a degree of accuracy.

There is a considerable difference, of course, between being a good player and a great one. Great, I think, is being outstanding in every one of the four categories in the system. Certainly, if you can get

tens for technique and personality, it is going to take you into greatness. It is usually the most talented players who have got a question mark against their personality, by which I mean strength of character and leadership qualities, not charm. Conversely, those with the strongest personalities often haven't got it technically. Tony Adams must get a ten for personality, for instance, but you couldn't give him more than seven for technical ability. Tom Finney,



'It's a crazy job, an almost impossible job.' Why I'm so grateful for Ron Greenwood's warning

on the other hand, would get a ten on personality and a ten for technique. That makes him great.

Great in national terms, at least. I think there is a distinction between national greatness and international greatness. If we are going to talk about the truly great players since the war, I don't think we can look much beyond Pelé and Diego Maradona. Maybe Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer as well, but nobody else qualifies for a level that you have to make greater than great.

Maradona's history of misbehaviour might prompt some to give him a low mark for personality, but he's always been a good team player. At Barcelona, they all spoke well of him, never mind what

anybody else said. And when he scored that goal for Argentina in the 1994 World Cup finals, all his team-mates ran towards him like a hurricane, didn't they, when he was going mad to the television cameras? They were all behind him, and you could see he was popular in the team. Overall, Pelé was probably the better player; but you could argue that Maradona never had as many top-class players around him as Pelé did in 1970.

What I always liked about Gary Lineker was the strength and clarity of his mind. If he failed to score, he wouldn't let it get him down. He'd make up his mind to go in there again looking for chances. He was unusual in that people with pace often lack a bit of thought, but his pace was electric and his mind couldn't have been sharper.

His touch could have been better sometimes, but because of his brightness, his game improved as he got older. His runs certainly improved, and he knew what he wanted from his game. It was all worked out. He very rarely hit the ball over the bar; it was always on target. When it's there, it's always got a chance of going in. Gary was shrewd: when it comes to a striker thinking about his game, he was possibly one of the best.

The one thing all great players have in common is that they are prepared to work hard for the team. Anybody who is not a team player is not a great player.

Maradona was a giver, not a taker, in the team context. Paul Gascoigne is the same. All Gazza wants is to be one of the boys. Normally, the rest of the players have got a little bit of selfishness about them towards the big star. He gets the best, and so on. But they want Gazza to have it because he only gives it back, anyway. That willingness to give of themselves for the sake of the team usually overrides any jealousy their team-mates might feel towards the star players.

The other thing, the main thing, all great players have in common is a love of the game. They must have loved it dearly at some stage in their lives to put in the practice that made them great. You don't become great by lying in bed. You become great by being born with the necessary talent and then polishing it to a fine sheen. I think you are blessed with a talent, but what you do with it can become a curse.

Extracted from *The Best Game in the World*, by Terry Venables. To be published by Century in September.



'The main thing all great players have is a love of the game. You don't become great by lying in bed.' Photograph: Marc Aspland

Farewell to the flat caps

The football fan has become a different person in the past five years, and will change even more in the next five. The working man in the flat cap, if we can call him that, still goes to football; but he is being driven out by the powerful forces bringing in more luxurious and more costly accommodation for the supporters. In the end, I think the working man will have to settle for watching his club on television at home or in the pub with his mates.

Gentrification is not without its benefits, however. One thing it has helped to do is drive out the hooligan. Without wishing to sound snobbish or be disloyal to my own working-class background, the increase in admission prices is likely to exclude the sort of people who were giving English football a bad name. I am talking about the young men, mostly working class, who terrorised football grounds, railway trains, cross-Channel ferries and towns and cities throughout England and Europe with their violence from the late Sixties, until the Heysel Stadium disaster in 1985, and the one at

Hillsborough four years later, prompted a change of mood.

It has not been easy, if only because of the profound changes which have taken place in English society during the past 30 years. The breakdown of family life and the declining influence of religion, I believe, were largely responsible for the hooligan phenomenon. Families are breaking up, religion

dreadful episode, said to have been sparked off by extreme right-wing elements, should have been enough to alert us to the fact that football hooliganism has not gone away completely.

If I had any doubts about it, they were removed by a visit we had at the FA towards the end of 1995 from a policeman who specialises in the subject. He showed us all the

It was such a terrifying sight. I wondered whether to show it to the England players. I decided to in the end because sometimes games are held up for 15 minutes or so when there is trouble getting the crowd into the ground. The players get upset at the delay because they are all tuned up and ready to go. So I told them to cast their minds back to what they had just seen the next time their game is held up.

One of the worst side-effects of hooliganism is that it has made it so much more difficult for the well-behaved football supporter to gain some recognition and respect from the football authorities. As I keep on saying, the game belongs to the fan, not in the sense that he should be able to interfere directly with the running of his team, but in the sense that he should have a big say in the way his club is run. In the thrashing out of what the game is going to be, the fans should be represented strongly. I'm not quite sure how that can be brought about, but perhaps the media could help.

Patriot games, page 15

'He showed us all the weapons they had confiscated from the thugs, and it was a terrifying sight'

is breaking up and so is the sense of discipline and self-worth they could impart.

So far as the English are concerned, hooliganism only seems to surface now when the controls are relaxed for a moment and a cause is involved, as was the case with the outbreak of trouble that brought about the abandonment of England's match against Ireland in Dublin in February 1995. That

weapons they had confiscated from the thugs, and it was a terrifying sight. You are talking about axes, sabres and razor-blades in the match programme. Apparently, they slide half the blades into the pages of a closed programme and then strike out with it.

I thought to myself that if anyone saw that collection of weapons they'd never go to football again, and certainly never let their kids go.

MY EURO 96 DIARIES



BY GRAHAM KELLY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

What? Sir Bert Millichip flashing? I think something rather important must have been lost in the translation

19 Wednesday JUNE Another match, another luncheon. This time Nottingham, the Royal Moat House. These venue luncheons comprise officials of the two countries playing each other, the Football Association, UEFA and city and county authorities — about 30 in all.

The game [Croatia v Portugal, at the City Ground] is a terrible disappointment.

Croatia, already qualified for the quarter-finals, rest many of their stars, lose a goal after only four minutes and slack defensive play leads to two further goals for Portugal.

Croatia may need to avoid yellow cards, but how fair is it to Denmark? At least Italy only harmed themselves by resting players against the Czechs.

20 Thursday JUNE Stoichkov is reported to have made racist comments to Desailly. If this is true, it's a disgraceful blot on the tournament and almost entirely out of keeping with the tenor of the finals.

Never thought I would ever say this, but I am sorry to see the Scots go home.

It's been a wonderful first phase — superb atmosphere, exciting football and nice people everywhere. A dream come true.

Can England progress and turn another dream into reality?

21 Friday JUNE Breakfast with Gerard Houllier, who pays tribute to England's preparations after visiting training before the Holland match. Meeting with Gordon Taylor about possible partnership

with PFA. Meeting of commercial committee.

Dinner with English and Spanish officials at Trinity House, Tower Hill, the home of Britain's lighthouses. Spanish president's compliment that "Sir Bert Millichip should have been blushing when praised on the organisation as UEFA's Euro 96 Committee" caused some amusement when his charming interpreter, Maria, initially said "flashing".

Egidius Braun is chairman of the Euro Committee, but hasn't seen Germany play yet because he gets too uptight.

22 Saturday JUNE Today I can appreciate Eddy Braun's feelings. I am so determined not to pitch my hopes too high that I am in torment when England v Spain kicks off at Wembley. For two years, I have

been saying that Venables is getting it right. Today will be the acid test against the technically gifted, strong and resilient Spaniards: when we shall see whether the team is capable of building upon their inspirational performance against the Dutch.

It was always going to be a tight game, but it becomes absorbing as England make excellent efforts for the all-important game. Neither team can find the net and extra time comes with the innovation of the sudden-death "golden goal", a phrase which probably says it all for the two coaches.

I suspect the new rule will prove counter-productive, as the risk of losing a goal when there is no recovering is so huge. However, both teams continue to seek a winner, which ultimately eludes them.

Six years after his Italia 90 penalty miss, Stuart Pearce is courage personified as he coolly despatches the third kick after Alan Shearer and David Platt. England's victory is sealed by Gascoigne and the super Seaman.

In *The Times*, David Miller criticised the Turkish supporters for their non-stop derision of the Croats at Nottingham. Am I alone in finding the English baying of the Spanish penalty-takers unpleasant? Maybe I'm expecting too much.

Terribly sad for the Spanish who go home undefeated but just don't do enough to win today. Tears of sadness and joy in the royal box during the final singing.

One England fan proffers programme and pen not for my autograph but for that of my constant companion, who has so impressed him with her singing! Frank Skinner hasn't cried so much since the Baggies were relegated.

I decide not to ask him which time!

Terry's [Venables'] dad, Fred, recognises that England have secured a really good victory.

Who do we want to face in the semi? I would rather the organised and straightforward Germans than the tough, gifted and unpredictable Croats.

Tony Adams sits quietly in the royal retiring room watching France v Holland with a glass of mineral water as the rest of the team join friends and relations in the bar. I tell Shearer and Sheringham that they deserve all their success.

Home in time to watch last 15 minutes and penalties in the [France] quarter-final. Ring Houllier to congratulate him on France's success.

We have three "lodgers from hell" in residence so it's off with the eight-year-old to fetch a takeaway from Pizza Hut and a (relatively) early night.

23 Sunday JUNE Our visitors are off to the airport at 7.30am, so it's off to the health club at the constant companion's hotel to shake off the lethargy of late nights and motorway travel.

If she was responsible, for the

Italian Night advertised in the lobby for the eve of the final, maybe her job in sales could well be on the line.

Work on proposals for reform of the European Champions Cup, as UEFA have requested observations by June 26.

The biggest flaw, in my view, is the suggestion to have groups of six teams in the Champions' League, rather than four as at present. This would surely lead to meaningless games which would distort competition.

Poborski's outrageous scoop for the Czech Republic frustrates the increasingly lacklustre Portuguese, but the watching French must have been rubbing their hands at the bookings incurred by four Czechs which render them ineligible for Wednesday's semi-final at Old Trafford.

Overnight in Birmingham.

24 Monday JUNE Welcome address to the FA Coca Cola Football Development Conference at the International Convention Centre. Presenters include Andy Roxburgh and Bert van Linen.

I refer to the massive strides football has made in ten years since we first embarked upon development programmes with local authorities.

Since we overcame Spain on Saturday I have really come to believe that we might go all the way.

TOMORROW: WEMBLEY'S GRAND FINALE

Send a goodwill fax to Terry and the team at their Burnham Beeches base.

25 Tuesday JUNE Driving to work at 6am, I am struck on hearing Neil Sedaka's *Berry Gordie* how sad it must be to live in the

United States, a nation of 300 million people whose memories of tender years are dominated by Saturday afternoons at the picture show.

Throughout my 50 years, I have never been able to conceive Saturday without a match and now I'm getting the feeling in summer too. And on nearly every other day as well as Saturday.

Today's *Daily Mirror* has a smiling picture of Klusmann on the front page accepting their food hamper.

Yesterday's rude and ignorant analogies with the war have caused widespread anger. Like Stoichkov's abuse of Desailly, it was out of tune with the good nature of the tournament.

Meeting of the pyramid of the Football Committee. Life still goes on outside Euro 96. A.F.H. Newbury's election into the Wessex League is opposed by both the Hellenic League and the Hampshire League.

Football may have come home but some of the problems never go away.

To reception given by Ian Wooldridge of the *Daily Mail*.

هكذا من الاجل

Cipollini exacts rapid revenge on sprint rivals

TODAY'S STAGE (196km, Wasquehal to Nogent-sur-Oise)

4. FM 92.4-94.6: LW 198; MW
WORLD SERVICE. MW 848: LW
A 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM
UK MW 1053, 1089. Television
Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary
Gregory

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

Mighty strange behaviour, way out west

My senses told me that something was wrong. For the first night after the footie, it was quiet, too quiet. What, for instance, was a mini-series featuring half of Hollywood doing on little ol' Channel 4? By 11 o'clock, however, the secret was out. *Buffalo Girls* (Channel 4) was very, very bad.

Now this was something of a disappointment, as I had been looking forward for some time to a bucks-and-clad Anjelica Huston cracking her bullwhip. "Let's drink to my ba-zooms," she cried out from the much-repeated trailers. "Oh, gladly, Ms Anjelica," I'd reply, making a mental note to add sipping bourbon to my shopping list.

But I ought to have known better. People just don't go round saying "let's drink to my ba-zooms," just as you won't hear "you always seem to be looking out for me, No Ears" very often either.

But that was everyday chit-chat compared with some of what passed for dialogue last night.

My personal nominations for Worst Line in a Mini-series are "even a broken-down, old bullwhacker is better than no mother at all" closely followed by this gem, relating to a revolutionary, if rather eccentric, scheme to repopulate the Rockies with wild beaver: "We could buy a few pairs, let them loose in the high creeks, where they would procreate, proliferate and be plentiful again." I don't know how Jack Palance managed to keep a straight face.

Huston was Calamity Jane, who in between cracking whips and shouting people, found time to be ravished by Wild Bill Hickok and give birth to a daughter who was promptly adopted. It was the news that the woman who had adopted her daughter had died that sent her into "broken-down, old bullwhacker" mode last night and

which gets her to England in time for tonight's concluding instalment.

With America now consumed with guilt about the style in which the West was "won", *Buffalo Girls* was heavy with the scent of revisionism. General Custer was reduced to a ride-on part as an arrogant fool; Buffalo Bill expressed his regrets about killing so many buffalo and Wild Bill Hickok said he was sorry for being so wild. Or rather he would have done if he hadn't been shot dead midway through the second reel.

But I got a little of feeling that everything's going to work out all right in the end. Consider what happened to our girl when she got stuck in a blizzard. She lost her dog, she fell off her horse and as the snow piled up around her all seemed lost. Then, when she should come along but No Ears (Floyd Red Crow

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Westerman) who picked her up and carried her off to the hotel run by her best friend, Dora (Melanie Lynskey). Two minutes later — and I kid you not — Calamity's horse knocked on the front door. Five minutes later, there was another knock. By this stage, I wouldn't have been at all surprised if her ba-zooms had been uttered in "Hi Mom, we're home, see we won't it cold last night" but it turned out to

be her short-lost dog. I scribbled a change to my shopping list — make that slurring bourbon for part two.

By its title, *World in Action: Cowboy Country* (ITV) looked just the job as a curtain-raiser for *Buffalo Girls*. But it quickly became apparent that the Wild West analogy was simply a means to a soundtrack by Brian Wilson. Labour's transport spokesman, this, he declared, was "frontier capitalism" where "winners take all" and the rule is "kill or be killed".

What Wilson was talking about was Stagecoach, the private-sector coach company. Ask anyone who keeps half an eye on the financial pages what they know about Stagecoach and they will tell you three things: that it is hugely successful, that it has made Brian Souter and Ann Clegg, the brother and sister who run it, extremely rich and that it has a rather questionable reputation. Not sur-

prisingly, *World in Action* concentrated on the last.

In doing so it broke little in the way of new ground, but the power and immediacy of television pictures (even pictures of buses) breathed energetic new life into an old story. From up and down the country came local footage of white, unmarked buses plying for customers in competition with established local firms. But there is competition and competition, as Sir Bob Reid, a former chairman of British Rail, explained. One per cent, 2 per cent, 3 per cent below that was competition. But free buses, allegedly a favourite Stagecoach tactic that was predatory pricing.

The programme also examined the amounts of public money that the company receives, although this section was rather too dependent on the contribution of the Labour transport

spokesman for the directors to lose much sleep. Selling off assets for more than you paid for them may be reprehensible in his eyes, but to many others it is simply good business.

The latest public money that the company has received is an annual subsidy of £54 million to run South West Trains. What, I wonder, would Hatley Branch line do with £54 million? Well, hopefully make a much better sit-com than *Oh, Dr Beeching* (BBC1).

The new series began last night with a repeat of last year's pilot, redrafted to take into account the fact that Paul Shane, a nighty writer now played by Julia Czekaj, rather than Sherrin Hewson. On its first showing I reluctantly predicted that the pilot would be back as a series "within a year". It made it — and with five weeks to spare. This year's reluctant prediction? It will probably run and run — subsidies permitting.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (55802)
6.30am BBC Breakfast News (CeeFax) (74463)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (CeeFax) (3033482)

9.20 Prime Leith's Tricks of the Trade (i) (4526821)
9.30 The Natural World (i) (CeeFax) (s) (8788869)

10.20 FILM: Leave All Fair (1985) starring John Gielgud, Jane Birkin and Feodor Atkine. Directed by John Reed. The later life of John Middleton Murry, husband of Katherine Mansfield. (CeeFax) (2217679)

12.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (2814355)
12.05pm Going for Gold (i) (7744395) 12.30 For the Love of It (i) (3667044) 12.35 Neighbours (CeeFax) (s) (836531)

1.00 News (CeeFax) and weather (77550)
1.30 Regional News and weather (12916531)
1.40 Wimbledon 96. Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage of the ladies' singles quarter-finals (s) (94132647)

5.35 Neighbours (i) (CeeFax) (s) (730956)
6.00 News (CeeFax) and weather (27)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (79)

7.00 The Good Food Show. Recipe ideas and investigative reports presented by Juliet Morris, Peter McCarthy and Will Hamran. This week features simple suppers and puddings, and British chef Alistair Little offers a fish recipe and to celebrate National Pub Week, Patsy McCarthy goes on a pub grub crawl, reporting on the revolution in traditional "pub grub" (CeeFax) (s) (9869)

7.30 EastEnders. There is something in the post for Bianca, and unexpected news reaches the Fowlers when Pauline returns from her trip to America. Paul worries that Kathy and Phil behave awkwardly when she tries to visit baby Ben. (CeeFax) (s) (83)

8.00 Dawn to Dusk: The Chimpantees of Gombe (CeeFax) (s) (5269)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Gary's fictional job with Ron may cover his trips back in time to 1941, but it's not much help when both Yvonne and Phoebe expect him for dinner on the same evening (i) (CeeFax) (s) (7024)

9.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (734)
9.30 The Office. A profile of extraordinary women who have made it to the top in the tough world of law enforcement (CeeFax) (s) (868483)

10.20 Today at Wimbledon. Sue Barker introduces highlights of ladies' quarter-finals day from the All England Club (CeeFax) (s) (935550)

11.25 False Arrest. The concluding part of a woman's fight to prove her innocence. After a mild heart attack has placed her husband in hospital, Joyce begins to suspect her spouse's involvement in the death of his partner With Donna Mills, Robert Wagner, Steven Bauer, Lane Smith, Dennis Christopher and Lewis Van Bergen (i) (CeeFax) (s) (617647)

12.55am Weather (5129883)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode. The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to record a particular programme. For more information on the programme, visit the Video PlusCode website at www.vpcode.co.uk. Video PlusCode is a trademark of Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am Under (2937) 9.00 Proas Your (146019) 9.30 The Convent (301707) 9.45 Oprah Winfrey (879043) 10.00 Jeopardy (882208) 11.10 Sally Jessy Raphael (186152) 12.00 Sports (882208) 12.30 Jeopardy (882208) 1.00 The Tonight Show (882208) 1.30 Jeopardy (882208) 1.50 Jeopardy (882208) 2.00 Jeopardy (882208) 2.30 Jeopardy (882208) 3.00 Jeopardy (882208) 3.30 Jeopardy (882208) 4.00 Jeopardy (882208) 4.30 Jeopardy (882208) 5.00 Jeopardy (882208) 5.30 Jeopardy (882208) 6.00 Jeopardy (882208) 6.30 Jeopardy (882208) 7.00 Jeopardy (882208) 7.30 Jeopardy (882208) 8.00 Jeopardy (882208) 8.30 Jeopardy (882208) 9.00 Jeopardy (882208) 9.30 Jeopardy (882208) 10.00 Jeopardy (882208) 10.30 Jeopardy (882208) 11.00 Jeopardy (882208) 11.30 Jeopardy (882208) 12.00 Jeopardy (882208) 12.30 Jeopardy (882208) 1.00 Jeopardy (882208) 1.30 Jeopardy (882208) 1.50 Jeopardy (882208) 2.00 Jeopardy (882208) 2.30 Jeopardy (882208) 3.00 Jeopardy (882208) 3.30 Jeopardy (882208) 4.00 Jeopardy (882208) 4.30 Jeopardy (882208) 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CRICKET 42

GOUGH'S BOWLING
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BACK ON TOP

SPORT

TUESDAY JULY 2 1996

CYCLING 46

SPRINT KING
TAKES HONOURS
IN TOUR STAGE

British No 1 shrugs off delays to reach last eight with straight-sets win

Henman gives no quarter to end long wait

By DAVID MILLER

TIM HENMAN swept to the quarter-finals of the men's singles at Wimbledon yesterday, keeping his concentration despite four interruptions for rain, and raising the status of British tennis to new heights. In a match punctuated with outstanding winners, he defeated Magnus Gustafsson in straight sets, 7-6, 6-4, 7-6, becoming the first Briton to reach the last eight since Roger Taylor in 1973.

Here was another supreme display of assurance by the 21-year-old from Oxford. Repeatedly, his match temperament on key points brought the spectators to their feet, hitting a range of perfectly-judged shots from all parts of the court. It was a thankless task for his opponent never mind that he is ranked 25 places above Henman at No 37.

There were times when Gustafsson's forehead return of service halted his young rival, leaving the Centre Court crowd with heart in mouth: notably when Henman served for the match leading 6-5 in the third set, only to make his first series of misjudgments of the match. He surrendered that service to go 6-6 but then splendidly redeemed himself by taking the tie-break, and thus the match, by seven points to four, taking another stride in the finest tournament he has yet played.

Praise for Henman comes from all quarters. Budge Patty, champion of the Fifties, said yesterday: "Henman has all the strokes, he looks very competent." Stan Smith called him "a genuine talent", while Tony Roche, the famous Australian left-hander said: "If he keeps working like he has in the past 12 months, who knows what he can do."

The weather has been relentless in the way it has disrupted Henman's play over

the two weeks. When the two players returned on court at 6.20pm for the fifth time, they had at that stage played a bare 40 minutes. Twice, including their first attempt at play, there had not been a point scored, twice they had played briefly, only to be halted. When rain sent them back to the dressing-room for the fourth time at 5.09pm for

Gustafsson led 5-3 in the third set, and now Henman truly showed his class. Two superb games, breaking service, saw him lead 6-5, and though there was then a momentary faltering, his service throw out of synchronisation, he continued the euphoria of this British summer of sport.

While spectators spent most of the afternoon taking cover from the rain, the unfortunate Martina Hingis needed protection from Steffi Graf. There was not any to be had, given Graf's mood, intent on revenge for the defeat which the 15-year-old prodigy had inflicted on her at the Italian Open earlier in the season. Graf is something of an enigma. She can seem the gentlest and most sensitive of souls. When she means business out on the tennis court, however, beware.

She raced through the first set in no time at all, 6-1, and hard though Hingis tried to pin her down at the back of the court by constantly playing to Graf's backhand, it could only delay the outcome.

At times, as Graf's forehead thundered past her on both flanks, Hingis was reduced to a smile of resignation. Not that she wants to wait. I am sure, but her time will come. As Graf said afterwards, when questioned on the future of her talented opponent, and whether she sensed a developing rivalry in the years ahead: "I've mentioned so many times that she's got really a lot of talent, even if grass isn't her favourite surface. From the way she has been trying in the last few months, the way she has improved, there's definitely a chance in the near future she'll be getting closer to the top five."

How urgently that is needed. The top five so much of the time go almost unchallenged. Graf was curiously dismissive of the allegation made over the weekend by Martina Navratilova, that her injuries were a fake. "She's lucky she doesn't have to live with them," Graf said.

Now the sun shone at last, Henman served to 3-3, and took the set with another break for 5-4.



Photograph 1
Simon Barnes 40
In Aramb's court 41



Goran Ivanisevic plays a forehand return to Patrick Rafter during their fourth round meeting yesterday

Kelly urges FA to enter bid for World Cup of 2006

By JOHN GOODBODY

ENGLAND is preparing to bid to stage the 2006 World Cup finals. After the success of the European championship, the Football Association wants to host the 32-nation tournament for the first time since 1966.

Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, said yesterday: "This is the logical next step. Nobody can question any longer England's ability to stage the biggest sports events in the world." Kelly is to urge the FA to make an official bid to match one being presented by Germany, who last staged the tournament in 1974. He has the backing of the Government, which is prepared to use National Lottery money to help improve the nine or ten stadiums needed for the competition.

Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, told the House of Commons yesterday that ministers would support the FA "in every way possible". She praised the "phenomenal success" of Euro 96, which was attended by more

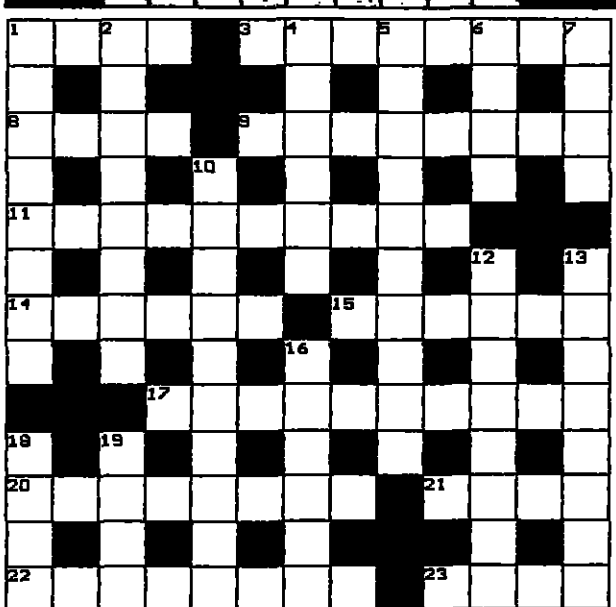
Venables on greatness 44
Bierhoff in tune 45
Bobby Robson's view 45

than 1.3 million spectators and watched on television by an estimated six billion people worldwide. She said: "To have the World Cup would be a great triumph for Britain."

The FA is already considering whether it should make a joint-bid with the Scottish FA to co-host the competition. The 2000 European championship will be jointly staged by Holland and Belgium and the 2002 World Cup by Japan and South Korea. Glen Kiron, tournament director of Euro 96, said: "We will discuss it with our potential partners."

England agreed to withdraw its application to stage the 1998 World Cup, which will be held in France, in order to secure support for its candidature for Euro 96. A tournament in 2006 would also be able to use the new national stadium, whose location will be settled in the autumn. Wembley and Manchester are the two candidates. It will also be possible to use Old Trafford, which, by then, could have a seated capacity of more than 60,000. The decision will be made in 2000.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 823

ACROSS

- 1 Bed; nonsense (4)
3 Speck of wood, esp. in finger (8)
8 A force; a shade (4)
9 Joky (8)
11 Table of ancestry (6,4)
14 Of the thorax (6)
15 Charity market (6)
17 Small-scale clashes (10)
20 Unwanted remains (8)
21 Run-down accommodation (4)
22 Trail untidily (8)
23 Press; an element (4)

DOWN

- 1 (Church) living (8)
2 Month of October revolution (1917) (8)
4 Well-mannered (6)
5 Air promise (anag.); a promoter (10)
6 Grahame's road-hog (4)
7 They fought the dogs and killed the cats (Browning) (4)
10 (German) lightning attack (10)
12 Graduate; sort of knight (8)
13 New undergraduate (8)
16 Spending; costing little (6)
18 Bonus; and in addition (4)
19 Reasonable; light-coloured (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 822

ACROSS: 1 Mole 3 Coppelia 9 Torsos 10 Endgame 11 Blessed 12 Come 14 Loller 16 Carnal 18 Bead 19 Officer 22 Exhorts 23 Vidas 24 Depleted 25 Memo
DOWN: 1 Mothball 2 Three-line whip 4 Overdo 5 Podagra 6 Learning curve 7 Apex 8 Mons 13 Alfresco 15 Endorse 17 Touse 20 Five 21 Weld

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Christie goes into extra time in attempt to secure golden goal

By DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

LAST YEAR, Linford Christie limped out of the world athletics championships with a torn hamstring. Now he is going to the Olympic Games with a twisted arm. In the end, there were too many forces working on Christie for him to see through his threat not to compete in Atlanta. Arm-twisting by Malcolm Arnold, Britain's head coach, was but one of them.

The list of reasons for his decision, which he announced at a press conference in London yesterday, was almost as long as a print-out of his championship victories: duty to his country; public demand; the belief he can retain his 100 metres title; persuasion from his coach; encouragement from Frankie Fredericks, the Olympic medal-winning sprinter from Namibia with whom he trains; the temptation of one last fling; and, would you believe, Euro 96. "It made me feel proud to be British," Christie said, recalling how he had watched England's semi-final against Germany. His decision, he said, was not reached until Sunday, after much agonising and taking many factors into account. It had nothing to do, he insisted, with commercial incentives.

It would be comforting for British athletics to think that a Christie victory in Atlanta is as inevitable as seemed his decision to go. Realistically, however, he has a slim chance. He is not ranked among the top ten in the world in 1996 and, at 36, is the oldest of the probable contenders by six years. As his third place in Paris last Friday indicated, when he finished

within 0.02sec of Donovan Bailey and Bruny Surin, the first two home at the 1995 world championships, he can still trouble the best. However, that was with a reasonable start, which used to guarantee Christie victory over anybody except Carl Lewis.

Christie's decision, though, exemplifies the man. There is not an athlete in the world over the last ten years who has worn his national vest with greater pride, none in Europe who can match his achievements. Few would risk a second successive beating on the big stage — he was sixth, carrying an injured hamstring, at the world championships in Gothenburg last year — and know the sheen on his coat would not be dulled. It would have been absurd for him not to try.

Not that Christie sees himself as an underdog. Who did

he think was the athlete to beat? "Me," was his one-word, unequivocal, reply. He had been moved by letters from the public urging him to run and convinced by his form that he should.

"There is room in the final only for the confident and I am very confident about my chances," he said. "I am better than four years ago, more consistent." His times so far this season bear that out. "Age ain't nothing but a number," he said, exercising more patience than usual over a question relating to his advancing years. "Age ain't going to be a problem at all." He did, after all, defy preconceptions about age and sprinting when, at 32, he became the oldest winner of an Olympic 100 metres title.

Having decided to run the 100 and 200 metres, Christie also committed to the 4 x 100

metres on Sunday evening. "Malcolm Arnold twisted my arm last night," he said. Just like Ron Roddan, his personal coach, has been doing for some time. "Every time I go to retire, he says 'One more year, one more year,'" Christie said. But this year, he was adamant, is most certainly his last on the international circuit.

Would victory at Atlanta not tempt him to stay? "No, no," he said. "Sometimes you push your luck. This year, I believe the reason I am performing so well is because I had it in mind I was not going to go. I have been left alone and able to enjoy athletics. Next year, I am going back to club athletics because it is enjoyable to run small meets without any pressure."

Just as Steve Backley's first javelin throws of the season, in his comeback from injury on Sunday, will have had an unsettling effect on the world leaders, so will Christie's announcement on the top sprinters, though only Ato Boldon, of Trinidad, who said he thought Christie would not compete, will be surprised. "I believe that, in the back of their minds, they were hoping I was not going to go," Christie said.

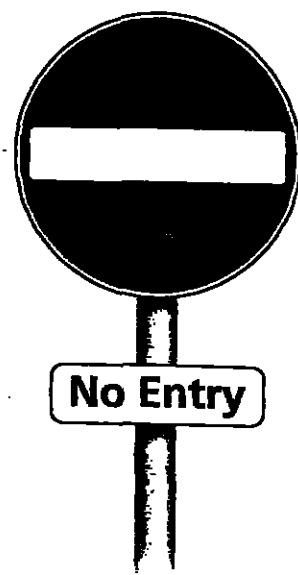
Many athletes of Christie's status will be staying in Atlanta's luxury hotels during the Games, but he will reside in the competitors' village. "I do not go for the superstar treatment," he said.

He would rather be calling for team effort than room service. Around the circuit, Christie has not always conducted himself like the perfect guest, but his spirit, professionalism and resilience on the track will be missed when he finally checks out.



Christie announces his Olympic decision yesterday

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